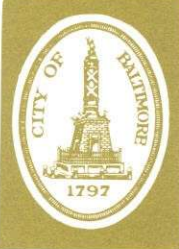


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Karen Sitnick, Director <i>KS</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Employment Development 417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 14-0344 – Minority and Women's Business Enterprises Program- Sunset Extension		

TO

DATE:

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council

April 3, 2014

Council Bill 14-0344 proposes postponing for an interim period the automatic termination of the City's Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (MWBE) program for a special effective date in order to conduct public hearings and collect testimony and evidence to determine whether the goals of the program have been achieved. Under current rules, the program is set to automatically end on April 30, 2014. The bill stipulates that, if study of the issues during the extension period indicates that the purposes identified for the program have not yet been achieved, the MWBE program may be extended for an addition five year period.

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) fully supports the proposed extension. As the operator of the City's Career Center Network, MOED is dedicated to promoting the success of MWBE businesses. The agency has a strong track record of working closely with the City's MWBE businesses to assist them with staffing needs and connect them with resources to fund new hire and incumbent training. We anticipate that the study-related activities proposed during the extension period will inform public policy and practice to produce the fullest inclusion of minority and women-owned businesses in Baltimore City's economic landscape.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important public policy issue.

cc: Kaliopé Parthemos
Andrew Smullian
MacKenzie Garvin

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