

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 23-0387
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President
At the request of: The Administration (Minority and Women’s Business Opportunity Office)
Introduced and read first time: May 15, 2023
Assigned to: Economic and Community Development Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Baltimore
Development Corporation, Minority and Women’s Business Opportunity Office

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Minority and Women’s Business Program – Reauthorization**

3 FOR the purpose of reauthorizing and continuing the Minority and Women’s Business Program;
4 providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to minority and women’s
5 business enterprises.

6 BY repealing and re-ordaining, with amendments
7 Article 5 - Finance, Property, and Procurement
8 Sections 28-3(a)(1)(iv) and (a)(2), and 28-5
9 Baltimore City Code
10 (Edition 2000)

11 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
12 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

13 **Baltimore City Code**

14 **Article 5. Finance, Property, and Procurement**

15 **Subtitle 28. Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises;**
16 **Small Local Business Enterprises**

17 **§ 28-3. Legislative findings and policy.**

18 (a) *Findings.*

19 (1) The Mayor and City Council makes the findings contained in this subsection, on full
20 consideration of:

21 . . .

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 (iv) the extensive findings of the [2014 Disparity Study] 2022 DISPARITY STUDY,
2 “The State of Minority and Women-Owned Business enterprise: Evidence from
3 Baltimore”;

4 . . .

5 (2) Past discrimination in the City’s contracting process by prime contractors against
6 minority and women’s business enterprises has resulted in significant underutilization
7 of minority and women’s business enterprises in contracts awarded by the City of
8 Baltimore. As determined by the [2007 Disparity Study] 2022 DISPARITY STUDY, this
9 disparity has been persistent, pervasive, and statistically significant based on available
10 vendor data.

11 **§ 28-5. Automatic termination.**

12 This subtitle automatically expires on [May 30, 2023] JUNE 30, 2028, unless the City
13 Council, after causing an appropriate study to be undertaken, conducting public hearings, and
14 hearing testimonial evidence, find that the purposes identified in this subtitle have not yet
15 been achieved, in which case this subtitle may be extended for 5 more years.

16 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
17 enacted.