


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Karen L. Sitnick, Director <i>KS</i>	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b>  <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Employment Development 417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468		
	SUBJECT	<b>City Council Bill 14-0345 – Minority and Women's Business Enterprises – Program Reauthorization</b>		

**TO**

DATE:

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council April 3, 2014

Council Bill 14-0345 proposes reauthorizing and continuing the City's Minority and Women's Business Enterprises (MWBE) program, 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 proposed reauthorization would change the date to April 30, 2019. 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 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: Andrew Smullian  
 Kaliopé Parthemos  
 MacKenzie Garvin

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