



The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holiday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: City Council Bill, 22-0256- Public Safety Apprenticeship Program Advisory Commission

Dear President and City Council Members,

MOED has reviewed Public Safety Apprenticeship Program, ordinance 22-0256. This legislation seeks to create a commission to provide oversight and recommendations for the Public Safety Apprenticeship Program. The Commission is comprised of voting members appointed by the Mayor, including Fire and Police unions, American Civil Liberties Union, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and two organizations representing African American police officers and firefighters, the Vulcan Blazers and the Vanguard Justice Society. The Commission also has four nonvoting members representing the Mayor, City Council President, Comptroller, and a member of the City Council committee on public safety. The Commission is also tasked with leading a subcommittee of full-time staff from the Fire Department, Baltimore Police Department, Baltimore City Public School System, Office of Equity and Civil Rights, and Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED).

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) supports apprenticeship programs for public safety as they help to develop a strong and vibrant workforce. Such programs provide participants with an opportunity to gain valuable job-related skills, hands-on experience, and mentorship from experienced public safety professionals. Not only does this benefit apprentices, but it also benefits the public safety community as a whole, as it increases the number of qualified and highly trained public safety professionals. Additionally, apprenticeship programs are an effective way to promote diversity and inclusion in public safety. Finally, MOED recognizes that apprenticeship programs are an important component of economic development, as they help to create jobs, stimulate the local economy, and provide a reliable source of employment for individuals in the public safety sector.

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) supports participating in the subcommittee of the Commission because it provides a platform for MOED to collaborate with other city agencies to ensure that the Apprenticeship Program is equitable and successful. MOED currently does not have the appropriate staffing or funding to dedicate a full-time person to this position.

MOED can help ensure that the Program is accessible by connecting potential participants to resources and opportunities. It should be noted, that MOED is not an agency dedicated to

compliance. MOED can help the Commission develop engagement and recruitment initiatives, for the apprentices to ensure their success in the Program.

MOED is in support of this legislation, but needs clarity on the expectations of the staff member and agency, as well as funding to support this role.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jason Perkins-Cohen".

**Jason Perkins-Cohen**  
Director