

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



**MAYOR'S OFFICE OF  
EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT**

JASON PERKINS-COHEN, Director  
417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 5, 2019

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

Re: City Council Bill 19-0343- Minority and Women's Business Program Interim Extension

Dear President and City Council Members:

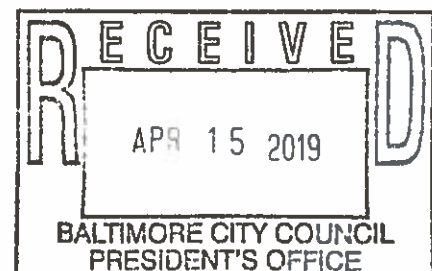
The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0343. MOED acknowledges that the intent of this bill is to extend the Baltimore City Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise (M/WBE) program for an interim period.

The Baltimore City M/WBE program is important for local hiring, particularly in communities of color. Studies have found that minority businesses are more likely to hire minority employees than non-minority owned businesses. Additionally, eligibility requirements of the program promote local hiring. Firms must be located within the Baltimore City market area and are limited to small business size standards. Local businesses are more likely to hire local employees. Additionally, small businesses have historically generated the majority of net new jobs.

The Baltimore City M/WBE program has a positive impact on local hiring and job creation for Baltimore City residents. Therefore, the Mayor's Office of Employment Development supports City Council Bill 19-0343.

Sincerely,

  
Jason Perkins-Cohen  
Director



Cc: Mackenzie Garvin, Director of Workforce Development Projects