



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Labor

Bill 19-0452

Employee-Owned Businesses - Reporting

Sponsor: Councilmember Bill Henry

Introduced: October 7, 2020

Purpose:

For the purpose of requiring the Director of Finance to provide annual reports to the Mayor and the City Council regarding certain Baltimore City employee-owned businesses; defining certain terms; and specifying the contents of the required reports.

Effective: On the date of enactment

Agency Reports

Baltimore Development Corporation	Favorable
Department of Law	Favorable
MWBOO - Law	
Department of Finance	Comments

Analysis

By adding:

Article V – Finance, Property, and Procurement; Section(s) 14-1 to 14-5; to be under the new subtitle, “Subtitle 14. Employee-Owned Businesses” Baltimore City Code (Edition 2000)

Background

In 2014, the City of Baltimore commissioned NERA Economic Consulting to conduct a study to evaluate: The State of Minority-and Women-Owned Business Enterprise: Evidence from Baltimore. The studies purpose was to investigate whether business enterprises in the City’s market area had a full and fair opportunity to compete for prime and associated subcontracts. Data analysis was conducted in the study and it found evidence consistent with the presence of business discrimination against Minority and Women’s Business Enterprises. The report also details an analysis that found the City’s own contracting and purchasing process contained documented evidence of business discrimination.

If enacted, Bill 19-0452 would require the Director of Finance to produce an annual report to the Mayor and City Council regarding employee owned-businesses. In this report the Director and Chief Purchasing Agent would assess the barriers faced by employee-owned businesses when competing for City contracts. Both parties would then be responsible for offering legislative or policy related recommendations that would reduce the barriers in the process, and enhance the opportunity for these businesses to compete for City contracts.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: Not Available

Information Source(s): Agency Reports, NERA Economic Consulting

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