

HB0456/466787/1

BY: Health and Government Operations Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 456
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 7, after “Program;” insert “requiring the Department of General Services to report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the termination of this Act;”.

On page 1, after line 18, insert:

“Preamble

WHEREAS, Maryland small businesses are an integral component and driving force for job creation and economic security; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Small Business Reserve Program plays a key role in supporting Maryland small businesses, creating a forum for fostering increased competitive opportunities for growth; and

WHEREAS, The Maryland Small Business Reserve Program is also an important race-neutral program intended to reduce the impact of discrimination against minority- and women-owned businesses, especially those businesses seeking to become prime contractors, and to promote the development of competitive and economically viable minority- and women-owned businesses; and

WHEREAS, Increasing opportunities for more small business through increased participation in the Small Business Reserve Program is in the best interest of Maryland; and

(Over)

WHEREAS, In order to meet its objectives, the structure, composition, and requirements of participation in the Small Business Reserve Program must be accessible and fair, and structured to create a fair competitive environment for all potential program participants; now, therefore.”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 3, after line 12, insert:

“SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, on or before October 1, 2013, the Department of General Services, in consultation with the Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs and the Maryland Department of Transportation, shall study the Small Business Reserve Program to evaluate the Program’s structure, composition, and requirements for participation and its impact and shall report to the Senate Education, Health, and Environments Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, on recommendations concerning the changes enacted by this Act to the requirements for participation in the Program, including the Program’s financial and employment guidelines, and additional legislation to implement any recommended changes.”;

in line 13, strike “2.” and substitute “3.”; and in line 14, after “2012.” insert “It shall remain effective for a period of 2 years and, at the end of September 30, 2014, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.”.