

BY: Economic Matters Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 264
(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in the sponsor line, strike “and C. Wilson” and substitute “C. Wilson, Jalisi, Krimm, Lisanti, Morales, Morhaim, Platt, and Queen”; strike beginning with “Study” in line 2 down through “Franchisees” in line 3 and substitute “Task Force to Investigate the Challenges of and Opportunities for Minorities in Business”.

On page 1, in lines 4 and 5, 11 and 12, and 17 and 18, in each instance, strike “Study Group to Investigate Discriminatory Practices Against Minority Franchisees” and substitute “Task Force to Investigate the Challenges of and Opportunities for Minorities in Business”; and in lines 6, 8, 9, and 19, in each instance, strike “Study Group” and substitute “Task Force”.

On page 2, in lines 10, 11, 12, 13, and 16, in each instance, strike “Study Group” and substitute “Task Force”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 7, strike “and”; strike beginning with “three” in line 8 down through “Governor” in line 9 and substitute “the Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary’s designee;

(7) the Special Secretary of the Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs, or the Special Secretary’s designee; and

(8) the following members, appointed by the Governor:

(i) a representative from a certified minority business enterprise that is at least 51% owned and controlled by minorities;

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(ii) a representative from a certified minority business enterprise that is at least 51% owned and controlled by women;

(iii) an individual with expertise in matters relating to the franchisor-franchisee relationship in the State;

(iv) a representative from the Maryland Bankers Association;

(v) a representative from the Maryland Chamber of Commerce;

(vi) a representative from the Maryland District Office of the federal Small Business Administration; and

(vii) one member of the general public”;

and in line 11, strike “Office of the Attorney General” and substitute “Governor’s Office of Minority Affairs”.

AMENDMENT NO. 3

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 17 through 27, inclusive, and substitute:

“(1) investigate discriminatory practices against minority- and women-owned businesses, including:

(i) reports of minority- and women-owned franchisee discrimination on the national level;

(ii) the franchisor–franchisee relationship in the State and whether there is evidence or a pattern of discriminatory treatment of minority- and women-owned franchisees by their respective franchisors; and

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(iii) incidents of franchise closings in the State to determine whether minority- and women-owned franchises are shut down disproportionately as compared to nonminority- and male-owned franchises;

(2) review, examine, and assess issues related to access to working capital for small, minority- and women-owned businesses, including potential airport concessionaires, in Maryland, including:

(i) the working capital needs by industry of those businesses;

(ii) the availability of working capital in the marketplace for, and any barriers encountered in gaining access to working capital in the marketplace by, those businesses; and

(iii) any resources available through the State to assist those businesses in gaining access to working capital, including technical assistance and training, financial assistance, and partnerships with other entities;

(3) study the employment of minorities and women under procurement contracts at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport, including:

(i) the working conditions and employment opportunities for employees employed by contractors under procurement contracts at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport;

(ii) the level of compensation and other benefits paid to minorities and women as compared to other employees by contractors under procurement contracts at Baltimore-Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport; and

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(iii) the participation of minorities and women with regard to the solicitation and award of procurement contracts at Baltimore–Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport;

(4) review, examine, and assess incentives for business entities that employ ex-felons, including:

(i) the best possible incentives to encourage business entities to employ ex-felons; and

(ii) the benefits and challenges associated with the long-term employment of ex-felons by business entities; and

(5) conduct hearings as considered appropriate.”;

in line 28, strike “2016, the Study Group” and substitute “2017, the Task Force”; and in line 29, after “recommendations” insert “, including any recommended legislation to address the findings of the Task Force.”.

On page 3, in line 2, strike “1 year” and substitute “2 years”; and in line 3, strike “2017” and substitute “2018”.