

Chapter 562

**(House Bill 319)**

AN ACT concerning

**Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission – Office of Supplier Diversity and Inclusion and Minority Business Enterprise Program**

**MC/PG 106–17**

FOR the purpose of continuing until a certain date certain provisions relating to procurement from minority business enterprises by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission; altering the name of the Office of Small, Local, and Minority Business Enterprise in the Commission to be the Office of Supplier Diversity and Inclusion; altering a certain definition; and generally relating to procurement by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission from minority business enterprises and the Office of Supplier Diversity and Inclusion.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
Article – Public Utilities  
Section 20–201, 20–202, 20–208, and 20–302  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(2010 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – Public Utilities**

20–201.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) Except as provided in § 20–203 of this subtitle, “minority business enterprise” means a legal entity that is:

(1) organized to engage in commercial transactions; and

(2) at least 51% owned and controlled by one or more individuals who are members of a group that is:

(i) disadvantaged socially or economically by the effects of past discrimination, including discrimination as to certification; and

(ii) identified by a study conducted in accordance with this subtitle or a similar, previously conducted study.

(c) “Office” means the Office of [Small, Local, and Minority Business Enterprise] **SUPPLIER DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION** established under § 20–202 of this subtitle.

20–202.

(a) There is an Office of [Small, Local, and Minority Business Enterprise] **SUPPLIER DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION** in the Commission.

(b) The head of the Office is the Director of the Office of [Small, Local, and Minority Business Enterprise] **SUPPLIER DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**.

(c) The Office shall:

(1) administer each Commission program that is created to promote the growth of or participation by minority or local small business enterprises, including:

(i) the minority business enterprise utilization program for design/build and construction contracts under § 20–203 of this subtitle;

(ii) the minority business enterprise utilization program for the procurement of other goods and services under § 20–204 of this subtitle; and

(iii) the local small business enterprise program under Subtitle 3 of this title;

(2) promote and coordinate the plans, programs, and operations of the Commission that promote or affect the establishment, preservation, and strengthening of minority business enterprises;

(3) promote activities and the use of the resources of the Commission, local governments, and private entities for the growth of minority business enterprises;

(4) provide technical and managerial assistance to minority business enterprises;

(5) schedule seminars and workshops to educate minority businesses on how the Commission conducts business; and

(6) ensure compliance with certified minority business enterprise subcontract participation goals under § 20–206 of this subtitle.

20–208.

This subtitle shall be of no effect and may not be enforced after July 1, [2017] **2022**.

20–302.

(a) By resolution or adopting regulations, the Commission may establish a local small business enterprise program.

(b) The Office of [Small, Local, and Minority Business Enterprise] **SUPPLIER DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION**, established under § 20–202 of this title, shall administer the program.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2017.

**Approved by the Governor, May 4, 2017.**