



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
SMALL, MINORITY & WOMEN
BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Governor Wes Moore

Lt. Governor Aruna Miller

February 13, 2023

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241
House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support with Amendments – House Bill 245 – Minority Business Enterprise Program – Reporting – List of Units

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Committee Members:

The Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women's Business Affairs (GOSBA) respectfully supports the proposed legislation and submits amendments for the Committee's considerations. GOSBA is currently responsible for producing an annual report that articulates the performance of State procurement units required to participate in the Minority Business Enterprise Program. In lieu of requiring the Office of State Procurement in the Department of General Services to maintain a list of the procurement units required to report, GOSBA believes this responsibility lies within its purview and recommends:

- adding an attestation within GOSBA's annual report to verify that all applicable procurement agencies are represented, and
- ensure accuracy and compliance of the attestation by conducting an audit of the state's Executive Departments every three years regarding compliance with the definition of "procurement agency" as stated in COMAR 21. 11.03.03.
- Effective with the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2023

GOSBA respectfully requests the committee's consideration of the proposed amendments to HB245.

Sincerely,

Pamela R. Gregory

Pamela Gregory
Chief of Staff
Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs