

Bill HB122

Support (FAV)

March 12, 2024

Kenneth White
President / CEO
Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce
15800 Crabbs Branch Way Suite 300
Rockville, MD 20855

I am writing to wholeheartedly endorse and recommend support for HB122 – General Provisions – Commemorative Month – Small Business Month

As the President of the Maryland Black Chamber of Commerce, I have had the privilege to witness firsthand the vital role that small businesses play in our state's economy. They are not merely entities that contribute to commerce; they are the lifeblood of our communities, representing 99.5% of all businesses in Maryland. The resilience, innovation, and dedication exhibited by small business owners are unparalleled, and it is imperative that we honor and celebrate their contributions.

HB122 proposes the proclamation of a Small Business Month throughout May annually, a commendable initiative that aims to highlight the significance of small businesses and foster a culture of support and appreciation for them. By encouraging citizens to engage in activities and programs that promote small businesses, we can amplify their visibility and bolster their success.

Moreover, I am particularly appreciative of HB122's focus on addressing the challenges faced by minority- and women-owned small businesses. These entrepreneurs often encounter systemic barriers that hinder their growth and limit their opportunities. By dedicating a month to celebrate and uplift small businesses, we can strive towards creating a more inclusive and equitable environment where all entrepreneurs have the chance to thrive.

I firmly believe that by supporting HB122, we are not only acknowledging the invaluable contributions of small businesses but also committing ourselves to their sustained prosperity. Together, we can create a supportive ecosystem where entrepreneurship flourishes, jobs are created, and communities prosper.

Thank you for considering my endorsement of HB122. I urge you to support this bill for the betterment of Maryland's small business community and the state as a whole.

Sincerely,



