



# LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC.

The Maryland House of Delegates, 6 Bladen Street, Room 300, Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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March 26, 2024

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Chairwoman Joseline Pena-Melnyk,  
Health & Government Operations Committee  
241 House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Pena-Melnyk and Members of the Committee:

The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland offers strong favorable support for Senate Bill 1014 - State Procurement - Minority Business Enterprises and Small Business Enterprises - Procurement Forecast and Outreach. **This bill is on the 2024 legislative priority agenda of the Black Caucus.**

This bill aims to support minority and small business enterprises by requiring units to publish annual procurement forecasts, considerations for merit increase eligibility, performance-based promotions and consequences for procurement officers/employees that do not meet participation goals. Finally, SB 1014 also includes requirements for the Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs to identify contracting opportunities for small businesses and develop a program to do so.

The potential opportunity for small and minority businesses are growing exponentially. We as leaders of our great state must put emphasis and guide these businesses with necessary and proper requirements. We believe this bill will aid business owners with better chances of wealth while also promoting the economy. For these reasons, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland supports Senate Bill 1014.

Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland