



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**SB795 State Procurement Preferences – Blind Industries and Services of Maryland –
Packaging and Repackaging
House and Government Operations Committee**

March 25, 2025

State Finance and Procurement Article, Section 14-103, of the Annotated Code provides, among other things, that a State or State-related entity shall buy supplies or services from BISM provided BISM supplies those products. This preference is limited to products and/or services not provided by Maryland Correctional Enterprises.

Section 14-103(c) specifically states that, when a state or State related entity is entering into a maintenance contract of housekeeping or janitorial services, the prime contractor shall procure products from BISM that are made, manufactured, re-manufactured and assembled by BISM.

The purpose of SB795 is to simply clarify that the vocational activities of “packaging” and “repackaging” are also allowed under Article – State Finance and Procurement, Section 14-103© Annotated Code of Maryland.

The current use of the term "assemble" in the Statute is vague and does not adequately describe the activities BISM’s blind employees are conducting. By adding the terms packaging and repackaging, the Bill simply memorializes that these types of activities should be allowable, and the vocational opportunities provided by this type of work are valuable to the State of Maryland and the blind community.

Accordingly, this bill is merely clarifying and housekeeping to make sure that the statutes concerning BISM reflects the job and work that BISM is doing.

SB795 passed with a Senate vote of 46-1. I ask for the committee’s consideration and favorable report.