

SENATE BILL 535

E4, C8

2lr1324

By: **Senators Pugh, Benson, Conway, Currie, Gladden, Jones–Rodwell, Kelley, McFadden, Muse, Ramirez, and Robey**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Ex–Offender Business Development Program Study**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Business and Economic
4 Development, Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the
5 Division of Parole and Probation in the Department of Public Safety and
6 Correctional Services jointly to study and evaluate the feasibility of establishing
7 a business development program for ex–offenders and to identify funding
8 sources for certain purposes; requiring the Departments and the Division jointly
9 to report their findings under this Act on or before a certain date; and generally
10 relating to business development for ex–offenders.

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That:

13 (a) The Department of Business and Economic Development, Department of
14 Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the Division of Parole and Probation in the
15 Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly shall:

16 (1) study and evaluate the feasibility of establishing a business
17 development program for ex–offenders that:

18 (i) invests in businesses run by ex–offenders; and

19 (ii) provides business training for ex–offenders; and

20 (2) identify funding sources to invest in ex–offender businesses and to
21 fund training programs.

22 (b) On or before October 1, 2013, the Department of Business and Economic
23 Development, Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the Division of

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Parole and Probation in the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services
2 jointly shall report the findings under subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with
3 § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the
4 House Economic Matters Committee.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 October 1, 2012.