Department of Legislative Services

Maryland General Assembly 2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE First Reader

House Bill 1432 Appropriations (Delegate Wilson)

Minority Business Enterprises - Coordination of Resources

This bill requires the Special Secretary for the Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) to (1) coordinate with the Department of Commerce to promote existing benefits and incentives, including tax incentives, grants, and technical assistance for minority business enterprises (MBEs) operating in enterprise zones and to encourage MBE participation in enterprise zones, and (2) coordinate with the Office of the Comptroller to promote existing benefits and incentives, including tax incentives, to support the growth of MBEs. The bill includes corresponding reporting requirements for GOSBA in fiscal 2026 through 2028. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2025.**

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None. The bill's requirements can be absorbed with existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: The bill does not materially affect local government finances or operations.

Small Business Effect: Minimal.

Analysis

Current Law: Statute lists 10 duties for the Special Secretary for the Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs including, but not limited to (1) carrying out State or federal programs created to promote the growth of or participation in MBEs; (2) promoting activities and the use of the resources of the State government, local governments, and private entities for the growth of MBEs; (3) establishing a system to develop, collect, summarize, and give out information that would help a person to establish an MBE, operate an MBE successfully, or promote the establishment and successful operation of MBEs; and (4) providing training and educational opportunities for nonminority prime contractors regarding the duties and responsibilities of a prime contractor with respect to minority businesses.

On or before the fifteenth day of each regular session of the General Assembly, the Special Secretary must send an annual report on GOSBA to the Governor and the General Assembly. The annual report may be prepared in conjunction with the annual report on MBE participation in State procurement that GOSBA must also submit.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced within the last three years.

Designated Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs; Department of Commerce; Comptroller's Office; Department of Legislative Services

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