

JOHNNY RAY SALLING
Legislative District 6
Baltimore County

Budget and Taxation Committee
Public Safety, Transportation,
and Environment Subcommittee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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Budget and Taxation Committee
Senator Guy Guzzone
Senator Jim Rosapepe
3 West
Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

To the Chair, Vice Chair, and esteemed Committee Members of the Budget and Taxation Committee:

I extend my sincere gratitude to each of you for your dedication and commitment in serving on the Budget and Taxation Committee. For the record, I am Senator Johnny Ray Salling.

I come before you to discuss a bill that bears similarities to the one I proposed during the last Session, with a notable exception. This updated bill emphasizes the necessity for the structure of procurement procedures to align with Federal standards established by the United States Small Business Administration, in accordance with the Federal Procurement Program.

Central to the bill's objective is the establishment of HUB zones, defined as historically under-utilized business zones. The primary aim of this legislation is to foster an environment conducive to the growth of small businesses, especially considering the challenges posed by the current economic climate. Within these designated HUB zones, government departments would be encouraged to strive for a specific percentage of contracts awarded to businesses within these zones. The overarching goal is to support underprivileged businesses within our state, presenting a unique opportunity for our constituents and the state as a whole.

I believe that implementing HUB zones is a crucial step towards creating a more inclusive and supportive economic landscape. Your support for this bill would not only benefit our local businesses but also contribute significantly to the well-being of our constituents and the overall prosperity of our state. I appreciate your time and consideration on this matter.

Thank you for your dedication and service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink that reads "Johnny R. Salling".

Senator Johnny Ray Salling