The Honorable Pamela Beidle Chair, Senate Finance Committee 3 East, Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Katherine A Klausmeier Vice-Chair, Senate Finance Committee James Senate Office Building, Room 123 11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

February 26, 2024

## RE: VOTE YES ON SB0765 — ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – BUSINESS DIVERSITY INCUBATOR PROGRAM

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice-Chair Klausmeier, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee:

On behalf of myself, my family members and community of Baltimore, District 45, I respectfully request your support of SB0765, The Business Diversity Incubator Program Bill. This legislation is necessary to support Maryland's economic development for businesses in diverse communities. This historic legislation will be utilized to make Maryland business creation more equitable, competitive, and up to date with modern enterprise standards and protocols.

I'm in support of SB0765. This historic legislation addresses the immense need for economic development in under-served communities. Establishing the Business Diversity Incubator Program will provide grants to specific social enterprises, for profit, nonprofit, and charitable organizations to establish diverse business incubators. These Diversity Incubators will create new businesses via investment of grant funding and other funding generated to startups in communities in the State of Maryland. Please vote in favor of this important initiative.

Sincerely,

Mkawasi Mcharo Hall | District 45