## Maryland

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF SMALL, MINORITY & WOMEN BUSINESS AFFAIRS

|                 | Governor Wes Moore              | Lt. Governor Aruna Miller |  |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| DATE:           | February 23, 2025               |                           |  |
| BILL NUMBER:    | SB 462                          |                           |  |
| COMMITTEE:      | Senate Budget and Taxation Comm | nittee                    |  |
| BILL TITLE:     | Procurement Reform Act of 2025  |                           |  |
| GOSBA POSITION: | FAVORABLE                       |                           |  |

Dear Chairman Guzzone and Members of the Committee:

The Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) would like to thank the Committee for the opportunity to provide written support for Senate Bill 426 (SB 426). SB 426 is a robust interdepartmental initiative to modernize, streamline and transform the State's procurement system into a more equitable and competitive marketplace. That said, GOSBA commends the Governor's leadership and willingness to address the inequalities small, minority, women, and veteran-owned business owners face daily.

GOSBA oversees each of the socioeconomic procurement programs across 70+ state agencies. Particularly, the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Small Business Reserve (SBR), and the Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE) Programs. Increasing opportunities for Maryland business owners have been instrumental in achieving economic stability in the State of Maryland, especially in the MBE, SBR, and VSBE communities. GOSBA believes the Procurement Act of 2025 would allow Maryland to become more efficient, equitable, and competitive in this decade.

GOSBA is pleased to offer this Letter of Support for SB 426 and welcomes the opportunity to discuss further.

Sincerely,

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