



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

Governor Wes Moore

Lt. Governor Aruna Miller

DATE: January 28, 2025

Bill Number: Senate Bill 243

Bill Title: State Government – Research Duties and Advisory Committee on Black Males – Repeal

GOSBA POSITION: Letter of Support

Dear Chairman Feldman and Committee Members:

The Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) would like to thank the Chairman for sponsoring the above-referenced legislation and provide written testimony for Senate Bill 243 (SB 243).

SB 903 (Chapter 74, Acts of 2004) required GOSBA to conduct necessary and appropriate research to determine the nature and extent of the problems concerning black males and offer recommendations exclusively pertinent to black males in the area of: (1) unemployment; (2) Criminal Justice; (3) Education; and (4) Health.

Since the enactment of this legislation on October 1, 2004, GOSBA has never submitted the mandated reporting requirement. Our office does not possess the personnel, resources, or the authority to conduct the research requested in the report. As the Office of Minority Affairs (OMA) transitioned to the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA), and then GOSBA, there were unaddressed duties and responsibilities referenced in the State Government Article, which were enacted under GOMA's purview. However, GOSBA does not collect or have access to the data and information required to fulfill this requirement.

GOSBA is pleased to offer this Letter of Support for SB 243 and welcomes the opportunity to discuss further.

Sincerely,

Davon Gardner

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