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OFFICE OF DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION & ENERGY

BILL: **Senate Bill 33**
State and County Procurement – Minority Business Enterprise Program
Participation Goals

COMMITTEE: Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs

DATE: February 3, 2021

POSITION: Oppose

Upon review of Senate Bill 33 – State and County Procurement – Minority Business Enterprise Program Participation Goals, the Department of General Services (DGS) provides these comments in opposition to the bill.

Senate Bill 33 separates minority business enterprises (MBEs) into two business groups, (1) socially and economically disadvantaged and (2) with origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa.

The MBE certification process and tracking are managed and maintained through the Maryland Department of Transportation (MDOT). Under Senate Bill 33, the certification program would have to separately establish criteria and track certification.

The Governor’s Office for Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) may require additional resources to provide guidance and training to the vendor and agency communities for MBE participation goal setting and compliance.

The DGS Office of State Procurement (OSP) would need to determine what subcontracting opportunities are available for each MBE group and for each State contact. The bill would require OSP to duplicate their MBE analysis efforts thus potentially requiring additional support staff.

For additional information, contact Ellen Robertson at 410-260-2908.

