

Chapter 240

(Senate Bill 356)

AN ACT concerning

Ex-Offender Business Development Program Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Business and Economic Development, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly to study and evaluate the feasibility of establishing a business development program for ex-offenders and to identify *certain* funding sources for certain purposes; requiring the Departments jointly to report their findings under this Act on or before a certain date; and generally relating to business development for ex-offenders.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(a) The Department of Business and Economic Development, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly shall:

(1) study and evaluate the feasibility of establishing a business development program for ex-offenders that:

~~(i) invests in businesses run by ex-offenders; and~~

~~(ii) provides business training for ex-offenders; and~~

(2) identify *nongovernmental* funding sources ~~to invest in ex-offender businesses and~~ to fund training programs.

(b) On or before October 1, 2014, the Department of Business and Economic Development, the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services jointly shall report the findings under subsection (a) of this section, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2013.

Approved by the Governor, May 2, 2013.