



April 10, 2026

**Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement**

TO: Government, Operations, and Fiscal Policy (GOFP) Committee

THRU: Lavinia Baxter   
Senior Budget and Policy Analysis

FROM: Isaiah Joseph   
Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement  
CB-024-2026 Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise Opportunities Program

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**CB-024-2026** (*proposed by:* Council Member Adams)

Assigned to the Government, Operations, and Fiscal Policy (GOFP) Committee.

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**AN ACT CONCERNING THE VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM** for the purpose of facilitating procurement opportunities for businesses located in Prince George's County that are owned by veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**Direct Impact:**

*Expenditures:* Limited adverse fiscal impact likely.

*Revenues:* No impact likely.

**Indirect Impact:**

Likely favorable.

### **Legislative Summary:**

CB-024-2026<sup>1</sup> was presented on March 24<sup>th</sup> and referred to the Government, Operations, and Fiscal Policy (GOPF) Committee. This bill establishes a Veteran-Owned Business Enterprise (VBE) Opportunities Program within Prince George's County procurement by creating participation goals, certification requirements, and enforcement mechanisms to increase contracting opportunities for veteran-owned businesses. The legislation sets a phased annual participation goal and authorizes targeted procurement tools to support inclusion of certified VBEs in County contracting.

### **Implementation Summary:**

According to the Office of Procurement, the bill would require the creation and administration of a new participation program with significant compliance, monitoring, and reporting responsibilities. The Office states that it would be responsible for maintaining a certification directory, monitoring contractor compliance, tracking quarterly performance, producing annual reports, maintaining a public dashboard, enforcing participation requirements, issuing waivers, and applying penalties. These responsibilities would substantially expand the current scope of work.

The Office states that implementation would necessitate additional staff, including compliance officers and certification reviewers, as well as IT system changes, reporting system updates, and expanded training and outreach efforts. However, the bill does not provide the necessary resources to support implementation. Specifically, it does not include funding, authorized positions, implementation authority, system support, or a phased implementation plan.

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### **Current Law/Background:**

Prince George's County currently administers procurement-based inclusion programs through Subtitle 10A (Purchasing), Division 6 (Special Provisions) of the County Code, primarily focused on expanding opportunities for minority-owned, women-owned, and small business enterprises.<sup>2</sup> These programs are implemented through certification, participation goals, and compliance monitoring requirements designed to increase equitable access to County contracting.

However, the County Code does not currently have an establish a dedicated procurement program specifically for veteran-owned business enterprises (VBEs). While veteran-owned businesses may participate in existing programs if they qualify under other categories, there is no standalone framework that defines veteran status or sets targeted participation goals, certification standards, or enforcement mechanisms for veteran-owned businesses.

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<sup>1</sup> [CB-024-2026](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Subtitle 10A, Division 6](#)

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**Resource Personnel:**

- Leroy D. Maddox Jr., Legislative Attorney
  - Taylor Ware, Chief of Staff (District 5)
  - Cory Jefferson, Office of Procurement
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**Discussion/Policy Analysis:**

The absence of a targeted VBE procurement program presents a policy gap. Veterans contribute significantly to the economic and civic life of Prince George's County and possess skills and experience that can strengthen the County's vendor base. At the same time, veteran-owned businesses face documented challenges in accessing government contracting opportunities, including limited access to procurement networks, lack of targeted outreach, and barriers associated with navigating certification and compliance processes.

Establishing a dedicated procurement program for VBEs would advance several County objectives. Specifically, the Bill:

1. Establishes legislative findings recognizing the economic contributions of veterans and the barriers veteran-owned businesses face in accessing government contracting opportunities.
2. Creates a program purpose that includes setting aside 2% of County small business procurement contracts for certified VBEs.
3. Establishes an annual participation goal requiring that not less than 15% of the total dollar value of eligible procurement contracts be awarded to certified VBEs, with a phased implementation (8% in Year 1, 12% in Year 2, and 15% in Year 3).
4. Authorizes the Purchasing Agent to implement tools such as VBE-only solicitations, participation goals on prime contracts, and reserve pools for small purchases.
5. Creates certification requirements, allowing VBEs to be certified through the County or recognized State and federal programs, and requires maintenance of a public directory and annual recertification.
6. Provides for waivers and exemptions where insufficient qualified VBEs exist, where funding restrictions apply, or in emergency procurements, with required documentation and quarterly reporting to the County Council.
7. Establishes compliance and enforcement mechanisms, including contractor reporting requirements, monitoring by the Office of Procurement, and penalties for noncompliance

such as liquidated damages, withholding of payments, contract termination, and potential suspension or debarment.

8. Requires reporting and accountability, including an annual report to the County Council and the creation of a public-facing dashboard tracking progress toward participation goals.
  9. Includes a program evaluation provision, requiring Council review of program effectiveness after five years and allowing future adjustments to participation goals based on performance data.
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### **Fiscal Impact:**

- *Direct Impact*

The enactment of CB-024-2026 will have an adverse fiscal impact due to the scope of implementation required. The Office of Procurement would be responsible for creating and administering a new participation program with additional compliance, monitoring, and reporting obligations, including maintaining a certification directory, tracking contractor performance, producing annual reports, maintaining a public dashboard, and enforcing participation requirements.

Implementation would require additional staff (including compliance officers and certification reviewers), IT system changes, reporting infrastructure, and expanded training and outreach.

- *Indirect Impact*

Enactment of CB-024-2026 should have a favorable indirect impact on the county. This legislation may strengthen the local economy by increasing participation of veteran-owned businesses in County contracting, supporting workforce reintegration, and expanding equitable access to procurement opportunities.

- *Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget*

No.

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### **Policy Implementation Resource/Project Timeline:**

According to the Office of Procurement, the proposed 180-day implementation timeline is not realistic given the scope of work required to establish this program.

The Office notes that several foundational elements need to be developed before implementation. This includes:

- Creating and adopting regulations,

- Designing and implementing a new certification process (since the bill is not aligned with existing State or federal frameworks)
- Making necessary IT system changes to track eligibility, participation goals, compliance, and reporting.
- Vendor outreach
- Training for both staff and businesses
- Development of compliance processes,
- Participation goal analysis; and,
- Reporting systems to ensure accountability and alignment with procurement law.

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**Effective Date of Proposed Legislation:**

The proposed Bill shall be effective forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

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If you require additional information or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please reach out to me via phone or email.