

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article – State Finance and Procurement**

14–309.

The provisions of §§ 14–301 through 14–305 of this subtitle, and any regulations adopted under those sections, shall be of no effect and may not be enforced after July 1, [2006] ~~2012~~ 2011.

**Chapter 116 of the Acts of 1995, as amended by Chapters 495 and 496 of the Acts of 2000 and Chapter 339 of the Acts of 2001**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Certification Agency, in consultation with the General Assembly and the Office of the Attorney General, shall initiate a study of the Minority Business Enterprise Program to evaluate the Program's continued compliance with the requirements of the Croson decision and any subsequent federal or constitutional requirements. In preparation for the study, the Board of Public Works may adopt regulations authorizing a unit of State government to require bidders and offerors to submit information necessary for the conduct of the study. The Board of Public Works may designate that certain information received in accordance with regulations adopted under this section shall be confidential. Notwithstanding that certain information may be designated by the Board of Public Works as confidential, the certification agency may provide the information to any person that is under contract with the certification agency to assist in conducting the study. The study shall also evaluate race neutral programs and other methods that can be used to address the needs of minority businesses. The final report on the study shall be submitted to the Legislative Policy Committee of the General Assembly prior to [September 30, 2005] SEPTEMBER 30, ~~2011~~ 2010, so that the General Assembly may review the report prior to the [2006] ~~2012~~ 2011 Session.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Approved May 2, 2006.

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**CHAPTER 360**

**(House Bill 883)**

AN ACT concerning

**Procurement – Percentage Price Preference – Locally Grown Foods**

FOR the purpose of providing a certain price preference for locally grown foods under certain circumstances; requiring the Board of Public Works to adopt certain regulations concerning the establishment of a certain percentage price preference; requiring certain schools and facilities to review certain procurement specifications and, to the extent practicable, require the use of a