

(c) (1) "Business entity" means a person operating or conducting a trade or business.

(2) Except as provided in § 9-103 of the Tax - Property Article, "business entity" does not include a person owning, operating, developing, constructing, or rehabilitating property intended for use primarily as single or multifamily residential property located within the enterprise zone.

(d) "County" means a county of this State and includes the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore.

(e) "Department" means the Department of BUSINESS AND Economic [and Employment] Development.

(f) "Enterprise zone" means an area:

(1) Meeting the requirements of [§ 5-303] § 5-403 of this subtitle and so designated by the Secretary pursuant to [§ 5-302] § 5-402 of this subtitle; ~~or~~

(2) So designated by the United States government; OR

(3) DESIGNATED AS AN EMPOWERMENT ZONE BY THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT PURSUANT TO 26 U.S.C. § 1391 ET SEQ.

(g) "Fund" means the Enterprise Zone Venture Capital Guarantee Fund.

(h) "Political subdivision" means any county or municipal corporation.

(i) "Secretary" means the Secretary of BUSINESS AND Economic [and Employment] Development.

(j) "Submission date" means April 15 and October 15 of any calendar year.

[5-302.] 5-402.

(a) Any political subdivision may apply to the Secretary for designation of an area within that political subdivision as an enterprise zone, but if a county seeks to designate an area within a municipal corporation as an enterprise zone, then the governing body of the municipal corporation must first consent.

(b) Any county may apply to the Secretary on behalf of a municipal corporation, with the consent of such municipal corporation, for designation of any area within that municipal corporation as an enterprise zone.

(c) Two or more political subdivisions may apply jointly to the Secretary for designation of an area as an enterprise zone which may be located astride their common boundaries.

(d) The application shall be in the form and manner and contain such information as the Secretary may, by regulation, determine, provided that the application shall:

(1) Contain information sufficient for the Secretary to determine if the criteria established in [§ 5-303] § 5-403 have been met;