



STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

LARRY HOGAN
GOVERNOR

April 27, 2017

Jimmy H. Rhee
Special Secretary of Minority Affairs
100 Community Place, 3rd Floor
Crownsville, MD 21302

Dear Special Secretary Rhee:

Pursuant to Maryland State Government Article, Section 9-305, I am directing the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (GOMA) to initiate a disparity study of the state's regulated medical cannabis industry and market. GOMA should work together with the Natalie M. LaPrade Medical Cannabis Commission and the Maryland Department of Transportation to complete a disparity study as expeditiously as possible in order to ensure diversity in Maryland's medical cannabis industry.

While a disparity study was contemplated during this past legislative session, there is no approved bill for me to sign that would initiate this process. As the issue of promoting diversity is of great importance to me and my administration, your office should begin this process immediately in order to ensure opportunities for minority participation in the industry.

Thank you for your assistance and leadership in addressing this important matter.

Sincerely,



Larry Hogan
Governor