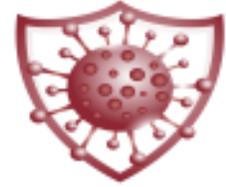




Londell Smith & Associates, LLC



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Good Afternoon, Happy Wednesday and Thank You for your time and consideration of Senate Bill 105. My name is Londell Smith, President of Londell Smith & Associates - a Professional Cleaning, Sanitizing and COVID Response company.

As a certified MBE Business, I believe that it is imperative that we create a statewide certification process to allow MBE Certified Businesses such as mine to be recognized throughout the state, instead of requiring us to register in multiple cities and/or local governments. This will save MBE Certified Businesses a considerable amount of time, energy and money, allowing us to focus our attention on business growth & development, job creation and providing excellent customer experiences. This will also help improve Ohio's overall business climate.

More importantly, the accountability language contained within SB105 will help provide legislative enforcement, ensuring Diversity, Equity and the Inclusion of MBE Certified Businesses in Ohio's Economic and Community Development Goals.

In closing, I want to thank State Senators Vernon Sykes (D-Akron) and Kirk Schuring (R-Canton) for introducing SB105. I would also like to thank other state legislators for their support of this important and timely legislation. It is my understanding that this legislation has already passed through the Ohio Senate, receiving unanimous bi-partisan support. As a certified MBE Business Owner, I humbly and respectfully ask that you follow suit to cut the unnecessary red tape, and increase MBE Certified Business' access to local and statewide opportunities.

THANK YOU!

Londell L. Smith