

Date introduced: 07/07/2021

Date voted upon: 07/07/2021

University of Baltimore Student Government Association Formally Requests the University of Baltimore and University System of Maryland to De-invest from The Maryland Correctional Enterprises due to unethical treatment, exploitation of labor, and slavery of incarcerated people
Resolution #4 SP 6-21

Introduced by: Senator Ezra Wong

Sponsored by: Senator Ezra Wong

Committee: D.E.I.

Written by: Executive Vice President Sabrina Bridglal , Senator Ezra Wong

WHEREAS: The Maryland Correctional Enterprises (MCE), employs incarcerated people throughout the state of Maryland to manufacture products and provide services at a reduced cost,

WHEREAS: The MCE has recently been required by law to disclose how much inmates are compensated for their work, for hourly employees their pay ranges from [\\$0.17 to \\$1.16](#) per hour depending on their skill level,

WHEREAS: Currently in the state of Maryland the minimum wage is \$11.75,

WHEREAS: The Maryland prison industry has capitalized on a loophole in the Thirteenth Amendment which permits slavery as part of criminal punishment,

WHEREAS: The University of Baltimore and other public institutions within Maryland actively utilize goods and services produced by this exploitative system,

WHEREAS: The University of Baltimore Student Government Association stands against the systemic enforcement of publicly funded institutions of higher learning to have to purchase goods from such unethical sources and calls for The University of Baltimore and University System Maryland to create policies that will ensure that we are not forced to purchase goods from entities that participate modern day slavery.

THEREFORE, LET IT BE ENACTED:

Sections One: The University of Baltimore Student Government Association is formally requesting the University of Baltimore and the University System of Maryland to dissolve their partnership with the MCE.

Section Two: The UBSGA is requesting the University of Baltimore to advocate for the abolishment of the mandate that forces us to purchase goods from this entity and replace the current contract with MCE with a provider that is socially conscious and provides fair pay and treatment for their employees.

Section Three: The UBSGA will share this resolution with the school administration, GSC, Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, University System of Maryland, University System of Maryland Student Council to further explore this systemic issue.

Vice President Sabrina Bridglal

Sabrina Bridglal (signature)

President Daniel Khoshkepazi

Daniel Khoshkepazi (signature)