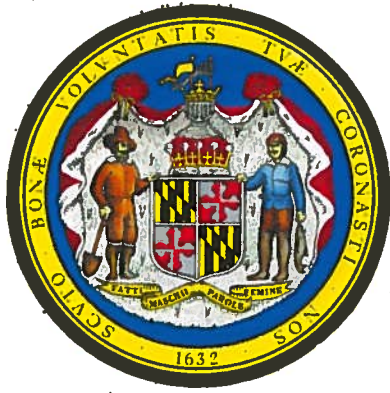


The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland
PURCHASING MONTH
MARCH 2021

- WHEREAS,** *The purchasing and materials management profession has a significant role in the quality, efficiency and profitability of business and government throughout the United States; and*
- WHEREAS,** *In addition to the purchasing of goods and services, the purchasing and materials management professionals engage in, or have direct responsibility for, functions such as executing, implementing and administrating contracts, developing forecast and procurement strategies, supervising and/or monitoring the flow and storage of materials; and developing working relationships with suppliers and other departments within organizations; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Purchasing professionals make important contributions to assure the efficient use of taxpayer dollars by proving efficient service while maintaining the highest standards; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Local, state and federal purchasing professionals are responsible for managing and monitoring billions of dollars worth of goods and services every year which, directly influences national and international economics; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Purchasing and procurement operations range from departments of one to several thousand employees; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland's vision is to be a leading center of national excellence in public procurement for the provision of goods and services essential to any public body, provided through the best contracts available; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The mission of Maryland's newly established Office of State Procurement is to provide the highest quality materials, equipment, supplies, and services essential to public needs, enabled through our state's eMaryland Marketplace Advantage, Maryland's centralized eProcurement program; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The Maryland Public Purchasing Association, a chapter of the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing: the Institute for Public Procurement, and the National Association of State Procurement Officials and other associations around the globe are sponsoring activities and special events to educate and inform the general public regarding the role of purchasing; and*
- WHEREAS,** *This is a time to celebrate with pride the role of the public procurement profession. When we celebrate Purchasing Month, we acknowledge on an elite group of professionals that have made a difference in governmental efficiency and effectiveness. This month provides the opportunity to help educate elected officials, administrators, taxpayers and vendors about the procurement process and the admirable work performed by procurement professionals every day.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim MARCH 2021 as PURCHASING MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 1st day of March
Two Thousand and twenty-one

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Byrd K. Lutherford
Lt. Governor

John C. Wabon
Secretary of State