FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

THE OFFICE OF DELEGATE JAZZ LEWIS, February 14, 2019 - On March 14, 2019, Delegate Jazz Lewis will be hosting Minority Business Night in Annapolis at 6 pm in the Lowe House Office Building in rooms 170 and 180.

Minority Business Night welcomes all small and minority businesses including MBE and procurement related organizations, early-stage technology firms, and innovation-driven companies to dinner in Annapolis to engage with legislators, hear legislation from 2019 Legislative Session that is applicable to small and minority businesses, and learn about funding opportunities and resources available to Maryland based businesses.

Minority Business Night will feature several notable speakers covering key topics that include essential current legislation that could impact your business, the Small Business Reserve program, access to capital, the Minority Business Enterprise certification process, and more. Invited presenters include the Governor's Office of Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs, Maryland Department of General Services, Maryland Department of Transportation Office of Small & Minority Business Policy, TEDCO, and other renowned speakers.

In addition to Minority Business Night, this session Delegate Jazz Lewis also introduced HB 284, which would streamline the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) certification process for minority and woman run small businesses. Other priority legislation that impacts small and minority businesses will be highlighted as well.

Minority Business Night is brought to you by several partners including People for Change Coalition (PFCC), MGM National Harbor, PFC Black Chamber, Leota Professional Resources, Alexander and Cleaver, TEDCO, Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation, Prince George's Chamber of Commerce, Baltimore Black Chamber, Charles County Business Outreach, Emerge Business Coaching, Network for Developing Conscious Communities, and IBOSS Inc.

Please RSVP at <u>https://bit.ly/2TBrtJ6</u>. For more information, please contact Jasmine Snead at 301-858-3691 or jazz.lewis@house.state.md.us.