

### Maryland Small Business Retirement Savings Program

#### Initial Observations

David Belnick, Executive Director

May 7, 2018



### **Path To Success**

- ➤ Getting Organized
- > Procurement
- > Plan Design
- > Marketing
- > System Testing



# **Getting Started**

- ➤ Initial Meetings
- ➤ Initial Loans Agreed & MOU Signed
- ➤ Initial Office Space
- ➤ Hire Staff



# **Getting Started**

- Interviewing Lawyers & Potential Consultants
- Negotiating State Benefits
- Budget Review & Revisions if Necessary
- Setting Up Financial Controls

# Marketing & Communication – Cast a Wide Net

- Website and Social Media
- Print Marketing to Individuals
- Assessment & Taxation
- > DLLR
- > AARP
- > Chambers of Commerce
- > Trade Groups
- Local Government



### **Plan Design**

- Streamline Employer Enrollment
- Make Contribution Amount Impactful
- > Participant Education
  - Financial Calculators
  - Retirement Readiness Projections
  - Highlight Tax Savers Credit
- Partner With Financial Community





- Plan Design
- Record-keeper
- > Investment Consultant
- Investigate Opportunities to Consolidate RFP's



# **Target Timetable**

### 2018 Activities

- Begin Plan Promotion: 2nd Qtr.
- Procurement RFP's: 3rd and 4th Qtr's
- Selection of Recordkeeper and Investment Choices: 4th Qtr.

### 2019 Activities

- Plan Marketing: Ist Qtr.
- ➤ Pilot Test of System: Ist Qtr.
- ➤ Initial Full Scale Operation: 2nd Qtr.



# **Final Thoughts on Getting This Right**

- Pay Attention Both to Small Businesses and Their Employees
- Don't Sacrifice Quality for Speed
- Beware of Artificial Deadlines
- Learn From the Experiences of Others
- We Can Grow Into Perfection