C8, Q3, Q1 8lr0135 CF 8lr0136

By: The President (By Request - Administration) and Senators Bates, Cassilly, Eckardt, Edwards, Hershey, Jennings, Klausmeier, Mathias, Middleton, Ready, Reilly, Salling, Serafini, and Simonaire

Introduced and read first time: January 22, 2018

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2

3

4

5 6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

## More Jobs for Marylanders Act 2.0

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "qualified distressed county" by altering certain income levels in the definition and renaming it to be "Tier I county"; altering the scope of eligible projects for which a business entity may apply to enroll in the More Jobs for Marylanders Program; altering the types of businesses authorized to receive certain credits and benefits under the Program; authorizing a certain county to select certain activities for eligibility for the Program; authorizing the Department of Commerce to require certain verification of certain information; altering the circumstances under which a business entity may receive certain benefits under the Program; requiring the Department to consider certain definitions in certain determinations; imposing a maximum amount that a certain business may receive as a credit against the State income tax under the Program; altering the date after which the Program may not provide a certain certificate of eligibility for Program benefits; altering the total credit amounts for which the Department may issue certain initial credit certificates for each fiscal year; requiring the Department to reserve a certain percentage of the More Jobs for Marylanders Tax Credit Reserve Fund for certain income tax credits; requiring the Department to reserve a certain percentage of the More Jobs for Marylanders Sales and Use Tax Refund Reserve Fund for refunds for certain business entities; altering the total refund amounts for which the Department may issue certain sales and use tax refunds for each fiscal year; requiring the publisher of the Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative Services, to correct any cross-references or terminology rendered incorrect by this Act and to describe any corrections made in an editor's note following the section affected; altering certain definitions; defining certain terms; making conforming changes; and generally relating to the More Jobs for Marylanders Program.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

subsection; but

34

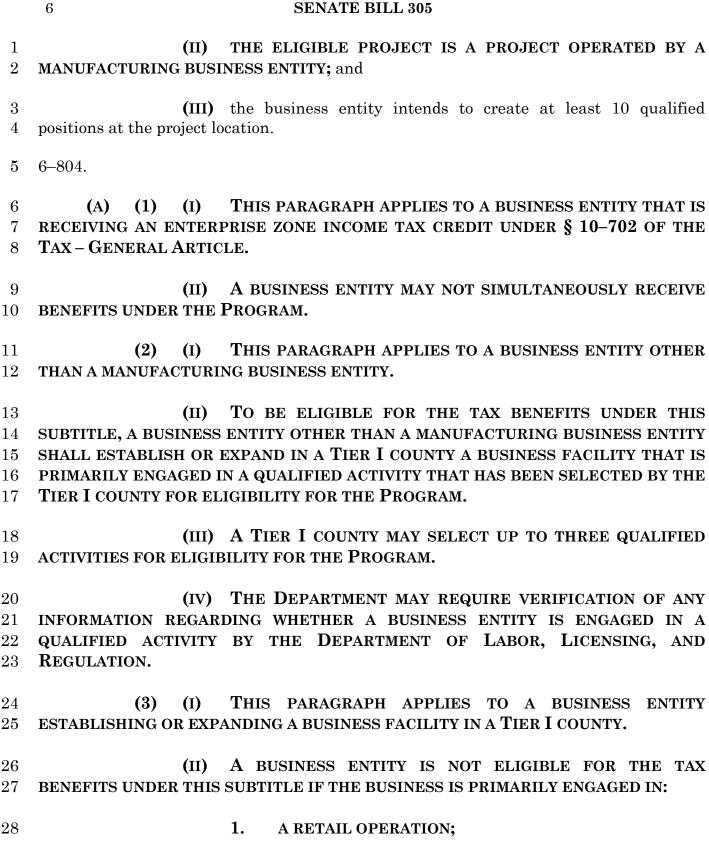
1 2 3 4	Article – Economic Development Section 1–101(a) and (b) and 6–802 Annotated Code of Maryland (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)							
5 6 7 8 9	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Economic Development Section 1–101(e), 6–801, 6–803(a), 6–804, and 6–805(b) Annotated Code of Maryland (2008 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)							
10 11 12 13	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article – Tax – General Section 10–741(b) and (d) and 11–411(d) Annotated Code of Maryland (2016 Replacement Volume and 2017 Supplement)							
15 16	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:							
7	Article – Economic Development							
18	1–101.							
9	(a) In this division the following words have the meanings indicated.							
20	(b) "County" means a county of the State or Baltimore City.							
21	(e) (1) ["Qualified distressed] "TIER I county" means a county with:							
22 23 24	period for which data are available that exceeds 150% of the average rate of unemployment							
25 26 27	(ii) an average rate of unemployment for the most recent 24-month period for which data are available that exceeds the average rate of unemployment in the State by at least 2 percentage points; or							
28 29 30 31	(iii) [an average per capita personal] A MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD income for the most recent 24—month period for which data are available that is equal to or less than [67%] 75% of the [average per capita personal] MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD income for the State during that period.							
32	(2) ["Qualified distressed] "TIER I county" includes a county that:							
33	(i) no longer meets either criterion stated in paragraph (1) of this							

- 1 (ii) has met at least one of the criteria at some time during the 2 preceding 24-month period.
- 3 6-801.
- 4 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.
- 5 (b) "Benefit year" means a taxable year in which a qualified business entity 6 claims a program benefit established under § 6–805 of this subtitle.
- 7 (c) [(1)] "Business entity" means a person conducting or operating a trade or 8 business [that is primarily engaged in activities that, in accordance with the North 9 American Industrial Classification System (NAICS), United States Manual, United States 10 Office of Management and Budget, 2012 Edition, would be included in Sector 31, 32, or 33.
- 11 (2) "Business entity" does not include a refiner, as defined in § 10–101 of the Business Regulation Article].
- 13 (D) "DESIGNATED BUSINESS ENTITY" MEANS A BUSINESS ENTITY
  14 PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN AT LEAST ONE QUALIFYING ACTIVITY THAT HAS BEEN
  15 SELECTED BY A TIER I COUNTY FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR THE PROGRAM.
- [(d)] (E) "Eligible project" means a [facility operated by a business entity in a Tier I county or Tier II county] PROJECT CERTIFIED AS ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFITS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 6–804 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
- 19 **[(e)] (F)** "Existing business entity" means a business entity that is located in the 20 State at the time it notifies the Department under § 6–803(c) of this subtitle.
- 21 (G) (1) "MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY" MEANS A BUSINESS ENTITY
  22 PRIMARILY ENGAGED IN ACTIVITIES IN THE STATE OR OUT OF THE STATE THAT, IN
  23 ACCORDANCE WITH THE NORTH AMERICAN INDUSTRIAL CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM
  24 (NAICS), UNITED STATES MANUAL, UNITED STATES OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT
  25 AND BUDGET, 2012 EDITION, WOULD BE INCLUDED IN SECTOR 31, 32, OR 33.
- 26 (2) "MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY" DOES NOT INCLUDE A REFINER AS DEFINED IN § 10–101 OF THE BUSINESS REGULATION ARTICLE.
- [(f)] (H) "New business entity" means a business entity that is not located in the State at the time it notifies the Department under § 6–803(b) of this subtitle.
- 30 **[(g)] (I)** "Program" means the More Jobs for Marylanders Program established 31 under this subtitle.

1	(J) " <b>Q</b> UA	ALIFIED ACTIVITY" MEANS:				
2	(1)	MINI	NG;			
3	(2)	TRAN	NSPORTATION SERVICES;			
4	(3)	COM	MUNICATIONS SERVICES;			
5	(4)	AGRI	CULTURE, FORESTRY, OR FISHING;			
6	(5)	RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, OR TESTING;				
7	(6)	BIOTECHNOLOGY-RELATED ACTIVITIES;				
8	(7) COMPUTER PROGRAMMING, INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, OF OTHER COMPUTER-RELATED SERVICES;					
10 11	(8) CENTRAL SERVICES FOR A BUSINESS ENTITY ENGAGED IN FINANCIAL SERVICES, REAL ESTATE SERVICES, OR INSURANCE SERVICES;					
12	(9)	THE	OPERATION OF CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES;			
13 14	(10) THE OPERATION OF A COMPANY HEADQUARTERS OTHER THAT THE HEADQUARTERS OF A PROFESSIONAL SPORTS ORGANIZATION;					
15	(11)	WAR	EHOUSING; OR			
16	(12)	BUSI	NESS SERVICES.			
17 18	[(h)] (K) business entity ope	-	lified business entity" means a new business entity or an existing g an eligible project under this subtitle.			
19	[(i)] (L)	(1)	"Qualified position" means a position that:			
20		(i)	is full-time and of indefinite duration;			
21		(ii)	pays at least 120% of the State minimum wage;			
22		(iii)	is located in a facility;			
23		(iv)	is newly created at a single facility in the State; and			
24		(v)	is filled.			

1		(2)	"Qua	lified position" does not include a position that is:		
2 3 4	(i) created when an employment function is shifted from an existing facility of a business entity in the State to another facility of the same business entity if the position is not a net new job in the State;					
5			(ii)	created through a change in ownership of a trade or business;		
6 7	business enti	ity if t	(iii) the pos	created through a consolidation, merger, or restructuring of a sition is not a net new job in the State;		
8 9 10						
11			(v)	filled for a period of less than 12 months.		
12	<b>[</b> (j)	"Tier	I coun	ty" means:		
13		(1)	a qua	alified distressed county, as defined in § 1–101 of this article; or		
14 15		(2) (1) or		enty designated by the Department that is not a county described subsection, not to exceed 3 counties.		
16 17						
18	6-802.					
19	There is a More Jobs for Marylanders Program in the Department.					
20	6–803.					
21 22						
23		(1)	(I)	THE ELIGIBLE PROJECT is in a Tier I county;		
24 25	MANUFACTU	URIN(	(II) G BUSI	THE ELIGIBLE PROJECT IS A PROJECT OPERATED BY A INESS ENTITY OR A DESIGNATED BUSINESS ENTITY; and		
26 27	positions at t	he pr	(III) oject lo	the business entity intends to create at least five qualified ocation; or		
28		(2)	<b>(</b> I <b>)</b>	THE ELIGIBLE PROJECT is in a Tier II county;		

29



THE PERFORMANCE OF PERSONAL SERVICES; OR

30 3. HEALTH CARE SERVICES.

2.

- 1 IN DETERMINING THE TYPE OF ACTIVITY A BUSINESS FACILITY IS **(4)** 2 ENGAGED IN UNDER PARAGRAPHS (2) OR (3) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE 3 DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSIDER THE DEFINITIONS SET FORTH IN THE NORTH AMERICAN INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM. 4 5 [(a)] **(B)** The Program benefits authorized under this section may be claimed by 6 a qualified business entity THAT IS A MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY OR A 7 **DESIGNATED BUSINESS ENTITY** for up to 10 consecutive benefit years. 8 [(b)] **(C) (1)** On enrollment in the Program [: 9 (1), a new business entity [in a Tier I county] is eligible for [:] THE 10 BENEFITS DESCRIBED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF IT: LOCATES IN A TIER I COUNTY; 11 (I)12 (II)IS A MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY OR A DESIGNATED 13 **BUSINESS ENTITY; AND** 14 (III) CREATES AT LEAST FIVE QUALIFIED POSITIONS. **(2)** 15 A NEW BUSINESS ENTITY THAT SATISFIES THE CONDITIONS 16 UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR: a credit against the State income tax, established under § 17 (i) 10–741(b) of the Tax – General Article;
- 18
- 19 a credit against the State property tax, established under § (ii) 20 9–110 of the Tax – Property Article;
- 21 a refund of sales and use tax paid during the immediately 22 preceding taxable year, as provided under § 11–411 of the Tax – General Article; and
- 23a waiver of fees charged by the State Department of Assessments 24and Taxation, established under § 1–203.1 of the Corporations and Associations Article[; 25and
- 26 (2)except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, an existing business 27 entity that operates an eligible project is eligible for a credit against the State income tax, established under § 10–741(b) of the Tax – General Article. 28
- 29 The income tax credit established under § 10–741(b) of the Tax – General 30 Article is not available to an existing business entity if the entity moves its facility to another county in the State on or after June 1, 2017]. 31

1 2 3	(D) (1) ON ENROLLMENT IN THE PROGRAM, A BUSINESS ENTITY IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE BENEFITS DESCRIBED UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF IT IS:
4 5	(I) A NEW BUSINESS ENTITY OR AN EXISTING BUSINESS ENTITY THAT:
6	1. LOCATES IN A TIER II COUNTY;
7	2. IS A MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY; AND
8	3. CREATES AT LEAST 10 QUALIFIED POSITIONS; OR
9	(II) AN EXISTING BUSINESS ENTITY THAT:
10	1. LOCATES OR EXPANDS IN A TIER I COUNTY;
11 12	2. IS A MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY OR A DESIGNATED BUSINESS ENTITY; AND
13	3. CREATES AT LEAST FIVE QUALIFIED POSITIONS.
14 15 16 17	(2) A BUSINESS ENTITY THAT SATISFIES THE CONDITIONS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IS ELIGIBLE FOR A CREDIT AGAINST THE STATE INCOME TAX, ESTABLISHED UNDER § 10–741(B) OF THE TAX – GENERAL ARTICLE.
18 19 20	(E) THE INCOME TAX CREDIT ESTABLISHED UNDER § 10–741(B) OF THE TAX – GENERAL ARTICLE IS AVAILABLE TO AN EXISTING BUSINESS ENTITY THAT MOVES ITS FACILITY TO ANOTHER COUNTY IN THE STATE IF:
21 22	(1) THE FACILITY IS OPERATED BY A MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITY; AND
23 24	(2) THE EXISTING BUSINESS ENTITY CREATES AT LEAST 10 ADDITIONAL QUALIFIED POSITIONS AT THE NEW LOCATION.
25 26 27	(F) A QUALIFIED BUSINESS ENTITY IS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE A MAXIMUM OF \$11,250 PER BENEFIT YEAR AS A CREDIT AGAINST THE STATE INCOME TAX FOR EACH QUALIFIED POSITION.

[(d)] (G) If the number of qualified positions at the eligible project decreases to a number less than the number established in the first benefit year, the project shall be removed from the Program and all program benefits terminate.

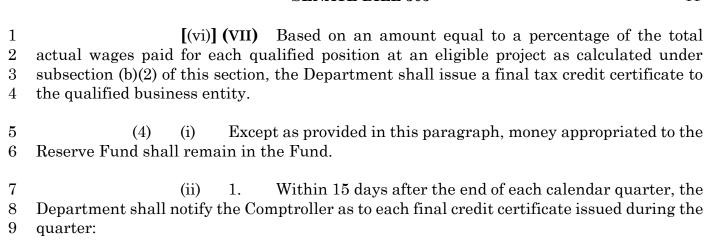
1 6-805.

2 (b) The Department may not provide a qualified business entity a certificate on 3 or after June 1, [2020] **2023**.

## 4 Article – Tax – General

- 5 10-741.
- 6 (b) (1) Subject to the limitations of this section, an individual or corporation
  7 that is a [new] business entity that operates an eligible project [in a Tier I county or an
  8 existing business entity that operates an eligible project] may claim a credit against the
  9 State income tax equal to the amount stated in the final tax credit certificate approved by
  10 the Department for an eligible project.
- 11 (2) (I) [The] SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATION IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II)
  12 OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE amount of the credit authorized under paragraph (1) of this
  13 subsection is equal to the product of:
- 14 **[**(i)**]** 1. the State employer withholding amount, which is equal to 15 the highest tax rate listed in § 10–105(a) of this title; and
- 16 **[**(ii)**] 2.** the total amount of wages paid for each qualified position 17 at an eligible project.
- 18 (II) FOR ANY TAXABLE YEAR, THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF CREDIT A
  19 QUALIFIED BUSINESS ENTITY MAY CLAIM UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT EXCEED
  20 \$11,250 FOR EACH QUALIFIED POSITION.
- 21 (3) If the tax credit allowed under this section in any taxable year exceeds 22 the total tax otherwise payable by the qualified business entity for that taxable year, the 23 qualified business entity may claim a refund in the amount of the excess.
- 24 (d) (1) In this subsection, "Reserve Fund" means the More Jobs for 25 Marylanders Tax Credit Reserve Fund established under paragraph (2) of this subsection.
- 26 (2) (i) There is a More Jobs for Marylanders Tax Credit Reserve Fund 27 that is a special continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of the State 28 Finance and Procurement Article.
- 29 (ii) The money in the Reserve Fund shall be invested and reinvested 30 by the Treasurer, and interest and earnings shall be credited to the General Fund.
- 31 (3) (i) Subject to the limitations of this subsection, the Department 32 shall issue an initial tax credit certificate in an amount equal to a percentage of total wages

- paid for each qualified position at an eligible project as calculated under subsection (b)(2) of this section.
- 3 (ii) An initial tax credit certificate issued under this subsection shall 4 state the maximum amount of tax credit for which the qualified business entity is eligible.
- 5 (iii) 1. Except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph, for 6 any fiscal year, the Department may not issue initial tax credit certificates for credit 7 amounts in the aggregate totaling more than [\$9,000,000] \$13,000,000 in a fiscal year.
- 2. If the aggregate credit amounts under initial tax credit certificates issued in a fiscal year total less than the maximum provided under subsubparagraph 1 of this subparagraph, any excess amount shall remain in the Reserve Fund and may be issued under initial tax credit certificates for the next fiscal year.
- 3. For any fiscal year, if funds are transferred from the Reserve Fund under the authority of any provision of law other than under paragraph (4) of this subsection, the maximum credit amounts in the aggregate for which the Department may issue initial tax credit certificates shall be reduced by the amount transferred.
- 16 (IV) 1. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS
  17 SUBPARAGRAPH, FOR ANY FISCAL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL RESERVE 50%
  18 OF THE FUNDS IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR INITIAL CREDITS FOR BUSINESS
  19 ENTITIES THAT ARE MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITIES.
- 2. If the aggregate credit amounts under initial tax credit certificates issued through the last quarter of a fiscal year total less than the amount reserved under subsubparagraph 1 of this subparagraph, the Department may use the remainder of those reserved funds to issue tax credit certificates to business entities that are not manufacturing business entities.
- [(iv)] (V) For fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Reserve Fund in an amount that is no less than the amount the Department reports is necessary under subsection (e) of this section to:
- 30 1. maintain the current level of manufacturing activity in the 31 State; and
- 32 2. attract new manufacturing activity to the State.
- I(v)] (VI) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 7–213 of the State Finance and Procurement Article, the Governor may not reduce an appropriation to the Reserve Fund in the State budget as approved by the General Assembly.



- 10 A. the maximum credit amount stated in the initial tax credit 11 certificate for the qualified business entity; and
- B. the final certified credit amount for the qualified business and entity.
- 2. On notification that a final credit amount has been certified, the Comptroller shall transfer an amount equal to the credit amount stated in the initial tax credit certificate for the qualified business entity from the Reserve Fund to the General Fund.
- 18 11–411.
- 19 (d) (1) There is a More Jobs for Marylanders Sales and Use Tax Refund 20 Reserve Fund that is a special continuing, nonlapsing fund that is not subject to § 7–302 of the State Finance and Procurement Article.
- 22 (2) The money in the Reserve Fund shall be invested and reinvested by the State Treasurer, and interest and earnings shall be credited to the General Fund.
- 24 (3) (I) [The] SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS IN SUBPARAGRAPH (II)
  25 OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE Department shall issue a refund in an amount equal to the
  26 amount claimed by the qualified business entity under subsection (c) of this section.
- (II) 1. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBPARAGRAPH, FOR ANY FISCAL YEAR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL RESERVE 50% OF THE MONEY IN THE RESERVE FUND FOR REFUNDS FOR BUSINESS ENTITIES THAT ARE MANUFACTURING BUSINESS ENTITIES.
- 2. If the aggregate refund amounts issued through the last quarter of a fiscal year total less than the amount reserved under subsubparagraph 1 of this subparagraph, the Department may use the remainder of those reserved funds to issue refunds to business entities that are not manufacturing business

1

## ENTITIES.

- 2 (4) (i) Except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph, for any fiscal year, the Department may not issue sales and use tax refunds in amounts in the aggregate totaling more than [\$1,000,000] **\$2,000,000** in a fiscal year.
- 5 (ii) if the aggregate amount of sales and use tax refunds issued in a 6 fiscal year totals less than the maximum provided under subparagraph (i) of this 7 paragraph, any excess amount shall be transferred to the More Jobs for Marylanders Tax 8 Credit Reserve Fund established under § 10–741 of this article.
- 9 (iii) For any fiscal year, if funds are transferred from the Reserve 10 Fund under authority of any provision of law, the maximum amounts in the aggregate for 11 which the Department may issue sales and use tax refunds shall be reduced by the amount 12 transferred.
- 13 (5) For fiscal year 2019 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to the Reserve Fund.
- 15 (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 7–213 of the State Finance and 16 Procurement Article, the Governor may not reduce an appropriation to the Reserve Fund 17 in the State budget as approved by the General Assembly.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the publisher of the Annotated Code of Maryland, in consultation with and subject to the approval of the Department of Legislative Services, shall correct, with no further action required by the General Assembly, cross—references and terminology rendered incorrect by this Act or by any other Act of the General Assembly of 2018 that affects provisions enacted by this Act. The publisher shall adequately describe any correction that is made in an editor's note following the section affected.
- SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2018.