

# SENATE BILL 459

C8

1lr2043

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By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 28, 2021

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Economic Development – ~~Maryland Small Business Innovation Research~~**  
3 **~~Technical Assistance Program – Alterations~~ Comprehensive Technical**  
4 **Assistance Program – Establishment**

5 FOR the purpose of ~~altering the purpose of the Maryland Small Business Innovation~~  
6 ~~Research Technical Assistance Program to include providing technical assistance to~~  
7 ~~assist small businesses with attracting and accessing private capital; and generally~~  
8 ~~relating to the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance~~  
9 ~~Program~~ establishing the Comprehensive Technical Assistance Program in the  
10 Maryland Technology Development Corporation; providing for the purpose of the  
11 Program; requiring the Program to include certain types of technical assistance;  
12 requiring the Corporation to include certain information on the Program in a certain  
13 annual report; requiring the Corporation to adopt certain regulations; and generally  
14 relating to the establishment of the Comprehensive Technical Assistance Program  
15 in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation.

16 BY ~~repealing and reenacting, with amendments,~~ adding to  
17 Article – Economic Development  
18 Section ~~10-4B-01~~ 10-416  
19 Annotated Code of Maryland  
20 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 Article – Economic Development

2 ~~10-4B-01.~~

3 (a) (1) ~~In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.~~

4 (2) ~~“Corporation” has the meaning stated in § 10-401 of this title.~~

5 (3) ~~“Phase 0” means the initial application process for the federal Small  
6 Business Innovation Research grant program or the federal Small Business Technology  
7 Transfer grant program.~~

8 (4) ~~“Phase I” means a small business has received up to \$150,000 in federal  
9 Small Business Innovation Research funding for approximately 6 months or federal Small  
10 Business Technology Transfer funding for 1 year, with the meaning stated in 15 U.S.C. §  
11 638.~~

12 (5) ~~“Phase II” means a small business has received up to \$1,000,000 in  
13 funding for up to 2 years to expand Phase I results, with the meaning stated in 15 U.S.C. §  
14 638.~~

15 (6) ~~“Program” means the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research  
16 Technical Assistance Program.~~

17 (b) ~~There is a Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical  
18 Assistance Program in the Corporation.~~

19 (c) ~~The purpose of the Program is to provide technical assistance to small  
20 businesses in the State by:~~

21 (1) ~~encouraging small businesses, including economically disadvantaged  
22 small businesses, to apply for grants under the federal Small Business Innovation Research  
23 grant program and the federal Small Business Technology Transfer grant program; [and]~~

24 (2) ~~ASSISTING SMALL BUSINESSES WITH ATTRACTING AND  
25 ACCESSING PRIVATE CAPITAL; AND~~

26 [(2)] (3) ~~providing grant applicants with technical assistance, including  
27 training assistance and assessments through Phases 0, I, and II of development.~~

28 (d) ~~To qualify for participation, a small business shall:~~

29 (1) ~~have its principal business operations located in the State, have over  
30 half of its workforce working in the State, and intend to maintain its principal business  
31 operations in the State; and~~

1           ~~(2) have not more than 50 employees.~~

2           ~~(e) The Corporation may adopt regulations establishing additional criteria for~~  
3 ~~eligibility and allocation of assistance.~~

4           ~~(f) In accordance with the requirements of Division II of the State Finance and~~  
5 ~~Procurement Article, the Corporation may procure a nonprofit organization located in the~~  
6 ~~State to provide services under the Program.~~

7 **10-416.**

8           **(A) THERE IS A COMPREHENSIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN**  
9 **THE CORPORATION.**

10           **(B) (1) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE**  
11 **COMPREHENSIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO ANY BUSINESS THAT QUALIFIES FOR**  
12 **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE OR ANY OTHER PROGRAM IN THE**  
13 **PORTFOLIO OF THE CORPORATION.**

14           **(2) THE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED UNDER THE PROGRAM**  
15 **SHALL:**

16                   **(I) INCORPORATE EXISTING SERVICES OF THE CORPORATION;**

17                   **(II) INCLUDE FLEXIBLE AND CUSTOMIZED APPLIED TRAINING**  
18 **SERVICES;**

19                   **(III) INCLUDE THE USE OF A NETWORK OF EXPERIENCED**  
20 **ADVISORS TO SERVE AS MENTORS AND LOANED EXECUTIVES; AND**

21                   **(IV) INCLUDE SUPPORT WITH ATTRACTING AND ACCESSING**  
22 **PRIVATE CAPITAL.**

23           **(C) THE CORPORATION SHALL INCLUDE, AS PART OF ITS ANNUAL REPORT**  
24 **TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNDER § 10-415 OF THIS**  
25 **SUBTITLE, A DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAM.**

26           **(D) THE CORPORATION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS**  
27 **SECTION.**

28           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2021.