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January 22, 2020

The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair Senate Finance Committee 3 East Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Letter of Support for Senate Bill 26 Partnership for Workforce Quality Program -- Alterations

Dear Senator Kelley:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for Senate Bill 26 Partnership for Workforce Quality Program -- Alterations. Senate Bill 26 updates the statute governing the Partnership for Workforce Quality Program which provides matching grants to employers for workforce training. Specifically, the bill will allow training for new employees as well as incumbent employees and establishes limits of funding to certain employers.

This program is a vital tool for businesses in the State of Maryland – and the Marylanders they employ – in creating a well-trained workforce. With this alteration allowing funds to be used for training new hires, the program will incentivize employers to hire workers who would otherwise not be given the opportunity to advance their job specific skills. This will improve business competitiveness and worker productivity.

For these reasons, I support and respectfully urge the Senate Finance Committee to act favorably upon SB 26.

Sincerely.

Darréll A. Brown, Esq.

Director

cc: Senator Arthur Ellis, Maryland District 28

Delegate Edith Patterson, Maryland District 28 Delegate Debra Davis, Maryland District 28

Reuben Collins, Charles County Commissioner President

Mark Belton, Charles County Administrator

Delegate C.T. Wilson, Maryland District 28

