

**Letter of Support for SB0448/HB0594:
Sales and Use Tax- Vendor Collection Credit- Job Training**

SB0448/HB05494 would allow for qualified job training organizations to keep the taxes that are currently remitted to the state through the sale of donated goods, permitting them to further invest in their communities through workforce development programs.

Every day Goodwill continues to work hard connecting residents to career paths and family sustaining wages. In addition to our retail stores, Goodwill provides job training, job placement and other human services for people who are un- or under-employed due to one or more challenges to employment, including:

- Lack of relevant education/training
- Workplace and life management skills
- Lack of housing/childcare/transportation and other practical barriers
- Physical/cognitive disabilities
- Mental health diseases and addiction recovery
- Legal expungement/criminal background/ex-offender re-entry

Last year, we placed over 330 individuals into jobs working an average of 32 hours/week at above minimum wage.

SB0448/HB0594 would impact thousands of individuals throughout the State of Maryland by increasing the capacity of qualified job training organizations to provide access to quality education, apprenticeships and obtaining employer needed skills and jobs. In addition, this credit would benefit organizations that help veterans, individuals with low or no income, those with physical and mental disabilities, and barriers to employment, gain entry into the workforce through job training and placement programs.

Our goal is to continue expanding our capacity and collaborative reach to provide resources and access to employment for residents in the Western Maryland region. If passed, we can increase our impact in the community by providing access to critical resources, apprenticeships and job readiness trainings to create a workforce pipeline to employment, resulting in stronger communities and the overall economy for the state of Maryland.

We strongly support **SB0448/HB0594!**

Sincerely,



David Shuster, Ed.D.
Chief Executive Officer

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