



March 2, 2021

The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky, Chair  
Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee  
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 889 - Controlled Hazardous Substance Facility Permit - Research Facilities - Chemical Warfare Material Requirements - FAVORABLE

Dear Chairman Pinsky and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill 889. I'd first like to thank Senator J.B. Jennings for introducing the bill given it will benefit not only the State of Maryland but the United States as well.

Joint Research and Development, Inc. (JRAD) is Privately Owned, Service Disabled, Veteran Owned, Small-Business (SDVOSB) founded in 2004. Over the last 15+ years we have provided exceptional scientific, engineering and technical assistance support to several Federal departments and agencies as well as industry and academic partners. We possess a wide-ranging cadre of scientific, technical, and analytical Subject-Matter-Experts in the areas of Science and Technology, Research and Development, Test and Evaluation and Acquisition support. We have offices in Maryland and Virginia and employ over 160 staff, the majority of whom work in Maryland.

JRAD supports this legislation because the bill will allow the U.S. Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command's Chemical Biological Center (CCDC CBC) to conduct critical research, development and demonstration of emerging science and technologies to protect our warfighters and first responders. As a defense contractor we recognize the critical mission CCDC CBC provides for both our warfighters and the U.S. homeland. Part of that mission is to investigate new technologies to safely reduce or eliminate chemical and biological threats which HB 889 will allow them to do.

As a longtime supporter of the Army Alliance and now the Maryland Defense Research Coalition (MDRC), JRAD is committed to supporting the mission of Aberdeen Proving Ground and its tenant organizations as one of the nation's premier defense research and development centers. For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 889.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Dieren", written in a cursive style.

Mike Dieren  
President

cc: Tom Albro, Chair of the Maryland Defense Research Coalition (MDRC)  
Bryson Popham, Bryson F. Popham, P.A.  
Joan Smith, Bryson F. Popham, P.A., MDRC Administrator