



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,

On behalf of the Harford County Chamber of Commerce, I am writing in support of Senate Bill 889.

The Harford County Chamber of Commerce supports SB 889; a bill that will provide the required environmental safeguards while permitting the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Developments Command Chemical Biological Center (CBC) to carry out its research mission of developing strategies to dispose of new forms of chemical weapons, in smaller quantities at APG.

The Maryland statute originally enacted in 1993 to regulate the environmental impact of eliminating the chemical agent stockpile at the Edgewood facility of APG has created the unforeseen result of adversely impacting the ability of the Department of Defense to develop and demonstrate new technologies to manage and control chemical warfare materiel in tactical environments and emergency response actions. CBC is the DoD’s designated organization for the research, development, and demonstration of technologies to destroy chemical and biological warfare materials. This includes new and novel incineration technologies that operate without impact on the environment. This is a critical mission in support of our nation.

SB 889 supports economic stability at APG and surrounding areas. For these reasons, I urge a FAVORABLE report on SB 889 and thank Senator J.B. Jennings for introducing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Angela Rose

President & CEO

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