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Judicial Proceedings Committee
Executive Nominations Committee

Senate Chair
Joint Committee on
Children, Youth, and Families

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Senator Mary-Dulany James

In Favor of SB 781 - Economic Development - Regional Additive Manufacturing

Partnership of Maryland – Alterations

Before the Finance Committee on February 27th, 2024

Madame Chair, Madame Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

This is a very simple bill that originated from a recent request of the RAMP MD organization, which stands for the Regional Additive Manufacturing Partnership of Maryland. RAMP MD is an entity that I helped create in 2014, and it was modeled after other states that had already leveraged the benefits of military installations within their borders. Thus, RAMP MD has allowed for technology transfer from Aberdeen Proving Ground to local businesses to create in-demand skills training and jobs in Harford County and across the region. RAMP MD would like to replace the word “Additive” in their name with “Advanced” to more accurately describe the scope of work that they seek to do.

In addition to being renamed the Regional *Advanced* Manufacturing Partnership of Maryland, the RAMP MD Fund will also be updated to reflect this alteration in name. Furthermore, the bill makes similar changes to the purposes, membership, and duties of RAMP MD to incorporate advanced manufacturing instead of solely additive manufacturing. I urge a favorable report for SB 781.