CORY V. McCRAy Legislative District 45 Baltimore City

Deputy Majority Whip

Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees Chair, Health and Human Services Vice Chair, Capital Budget

Executive Nominations Committee

Legislative Policy Committee Joint Committee on Gaming Oversight



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Statement of Senator Cory McCray In Support of Senate Bill 358 - Economic Development – Maryland Technology Development Corporation – 3 Application and Reporting Requirements

Vote Yes to SB 358

Title: Economic Development – Maryland Technology Development Corporation – 3 Application and Reporting Requirements Committee: Way's and Means Committee Hearing: March 21, 2024

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

I am writing to request your favorable vote on **Senate Bill 358**, a key piece of legislation that requires investment applications submitted to the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) to include an option for applicants to provide certain demographic information. The Corporation is prohibited from penalizing applicants who choose not to disclose such information. Additionally, the Corporation must submit a report to the Governor, the Maryland Economic Development Commission, and the General Assembly by a specified date. The report should cover applicant and investment activities, along with demographic information of applicants and founders, if available.

The purpose of **SB358** is to enhance transparency and accountability within the MTDC while ensuring the equitable distribution of state funds. The requirement for the MTDC to submit a detailed report to key stakeholders, including the Governor, the Maryland Economic Development Commission, and the General Assembly, adds an added layer of clarity. This bill establishes clear application and reporting standards to ensure that the MTDC effectively and responsibly allocates state funds, fostering a more accountable and transparent utilization of resources. **Significance and Impact:** The significance of **SB358** is that the introduction of demographic information in investment applications by the Maryland Technology Development Corporation holds significant implications for the state's entrepreneurial landscape. By incorporating demographic details into the application process, this bill supports fostering inclusivity and connection within specific demographics. This bill will also help empower minority communities by enhancing access to resources, mentorship, and collaborative networks.

This bill prioritizes the advancement of Maryland residents and their ability to create wealth, which is why I would like to urge a favorable report for **Senate Bill 358**.

Respectfully,

Cory V. McCray 45th District