

HOUSE BILL 851

C8

01r0122
CF SB 26

By: **Chair, Economic Matters Committee (By Request – Departmental – Commerce)**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020

Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 7, 2020

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Partnership for Workforce Quality Program – Alterations**

3 FOR the purpose of expanding the purpose of the Partnership for Workforce Quality
4 Program and the eligible uses of grants under the Program to include training for
5 new employees; ~~altering the~~ providing that a certain minimum percentage of ~~the~~
6 ~~money~~ money available to the Program ~~that~~ must be reserved for certain employers
7 ~~and, for those employers, altering the maximum number of employees based in the~~
8 ~~State~~ with a certain number of employees based in the State; establishing a
9 maximum amount of the money available to the Program that may be provided to a
10 certain employer; and generally relating to the Partnership for Workforce Quality
11 Program.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
13 Article – Economic Development
14 Section 3–401(a), (c), and (d) and 3–402
15 Annotated Code of Maryland
16 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
18 Article – Economic Development
19 Section 3–403, 3–405(a), and 3–412(c)
20 Annotated Code of Maryland
21 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
2 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

3 **Article – Economic Development**

4 3–401.

5 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

6 (c) “Fund” means the Partnership for Workforce Quality Fund.

7 (d) “Program” means the Partnership for Workforce Quality Program.

8 3–402.

9 There is a Partnership for Workforce Quality Program in the Department.

10 3–403.

11 The purpose of the Program is to provide training services to:

12 (1) improve the competitiveness and productivity of the State’s workforce
13 and business community;

14 (2) upgrade employee skills **OR TRAIN NEW EMPLOYEES** for new
15 technologies or production processes; and

16 (3) assist employers located in the State in promoting employment
17 stability.

18 3–405.

19 (a) (1) An employer receiving assistance under the Program shall be located in
20 the State.

21 (2) In order to receive assistance under the Program, an employer shall
22 request training assistance in job-specific skills to **TRAIN NEW EMPLOYEES OR TO**
23 upgrade or retain existing Maryland-based employees covered under Title 8 of the Labor
24 and Employment Article.

25 3–412.

26 (c) (1) At least ~~60%~~ **80%** of the money available to the Program shall be
27 reserved for employers with ~~150~~ **500** or fewer employees based in the State.

1 **(2) UP TO 20% OF THE MONEY AVAILABLE TO THE PROGRAM MAY BE**
2 **PROVIDED TO AN EMPLOYER WITH MORE THAN 150 EMPLOYEES AND 500 OR FEWER**
3 **EMPLOYEES BASED IN THE STATE.**

4 ~~(2)~~ **(3)** Up to 20% of the money available to the Program, **NOT TO EXCEED**
5 **\$200,000**, may be provided to an employer with more than 500 employees based in the
6 State, if the employer:

7 (i) is primarily engaged in manufacturing or in a technology-based
8 business;

9 (ii) agrees to increase purchases of goods produced in the State and
10 services from suppliers based in the State; and

11 (iii) agrees to provide the workforce training to the number of
12 employees based in the State, as determined by the Program, of smaller employers located
13 in the State that supply goods or services to the employer receiving the money.

14 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
15 1, 2020.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.