

SENATE BILL 804

C8

3lr2263

By: **Senator Ellis**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2023

Assigned to: Finance and Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Technology Development Corporation – Community Technology**
3 **Program for Maryland – Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Community Technology Program for Maryland in the
5 Maryland Technology Development Corporation to provide technology education and
6 assistance to certain communities; requiring the Program to allocate certain funding
7 to certain counties; requiring counties to adopt certain application procedures for
8 certain funding; and generally relating to the Community Technology Program for
9 Maryland.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
11 Article – Economic Development
12 Section 10–401(a) and (c)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Economic Development
17 Section 10–496
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

20 Preamble

21 WHEREAS, School systems cannot provide all of the necessary activities that attract
22 students to positive learning and actualization of technology for social and employment
23 skills in the new environment that advanced technologies require of individuals; and

24 WHEREAS, Nonprofit entities are well established in local counties with outreach
25 that business and governmental entities lack; and

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 WHEREAS, Initial start-up costs are not readily available to local organizations
2 positioned to provide these services; and

3 WHEREAS, Providing these services by local nongovernmental organizations
4 promotes community improvement for citizens of all ages; and

5 WHEREAS, Equity and access to technology education and certification are
6 challenges for youth and certain members of Maryland's workforce; and

7 WHEREAS, Creative grassroots strategies are needed to expand an understanding
8 of details of the digital divide; and

9 WHEREAS, There is value in funding technology hubs, community spaces, and
10 STEM learning centers for residents of Maryland to develop a pipeline for innovation and
11 invention; and

12 WHEREAS, Community technology corporations will provide outlets for all citizens
13 to increase their skill and knowledge of technology for education, employment, and business
14 ownership; now, therefore,

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

17 **Article – Economic Development**

18 10-401.

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

20 (c) "Corporation" means the Maryland Technology Development Corporation.

21 **10-496.**

22 **(A) IN THIS SECTION, "PROGRAM" MEANS THE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY**
23 **PROGRAM FOR MARYLAND.**

24 **(B) THERE IS A COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM FOR MARYLAND IN**
25 **THE CORPORATION.**

26 **(C) THE CORPORATION SHALL ADMINISTER THE PROGRAM.**

27 **(D) THE PROGRAM SHALL:**

28 **(1) DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE SERVICES THAT**
29 **PROMOTE AFTER-SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY CLUBS;**

1 **(2) ESTABLISH LEARNING CENTERS FOR INDIVIDUALS SEEKING**
2 **BASIC TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS FOR EMPLOYMENT; AND**

3 **(3) PROVIDE INDIVIDUALS IN THE COMMUNITY WITH THE NECESSARY**
4 **SKILLS TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO OBTAIN ESSENTIAL AID FROM THE GOVERNMENT**
5 **AND BUSINESSES.**

6 **(E) (1) FOR EACH FISCAL YEAR, THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE**
7 **ANNUAL BUDGET BILL AN APPROPRIATION OF \$2,400,000 TO THE PROGRAM.**

8 **(2) FROM THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATION, THE PROGRAM SHALL**
9 **ALLOCATE \$100,000 FOR USE IN EACH COUNTY OF THE STATE FOR THE PURPOSES**
10 **OF THE PROGRAM.**

11 **(3) THE PROGRAM SHALL IDENTIFY ONE LOCAL NONGOVERNMENTAL**
12 **ORGANIZATION IN EACH COUNTY TO RECEIVE FUNDING FROM THE APPROPRIATION**
13 **AND:**

14 **(I) DEVELOP ONE OR MORE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY**
15 **CORPORATIONS IN THE COUNTY; AND**

16 **(II) IMPLEMENT ONE OR MORE LOCAL PROGRAMS TO**
17 **IMPLEMENT THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.**

18 **(F) EACH COUNTY SHALL DEVELOP APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR LOCAL**
19 **NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO OBTAIN FUNDING FROM THE PROGRAM,**
20 **CONSISTENT WITH APPLICATION PROCEDURES OF THE CORPORATION.**

21 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June
22 1, 2023.