

# SENATE BILL 763

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CF HB 1596

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By: **Senator Guzzone**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: March 1, 2026

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Technology Development Corporation – Maryland Growth Initiative –**  
3 **Established**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Growth Initiative in the Maryland  
5 Technology Development Corporation to support the growth of start-up companies;  
6 requiring the Initiative to create a certain list of companies in the State that are  
7 between certain growth phases according to a certain priority; establishing the  
8 Maryland Growth Initiative Fund to be administered by the Corporation as a special,  
9 nonlapsing fund; requiring the interest earnings of the Fund to be credited to the  
10 Fund; requiring the Governor to include an appropriation in the annual budget bill  
11 for the Initiative; and generally relating to the Maryland Growth Initiative.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Economic Development

14 Section 10–4E–01 through 10–4E–05 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4E.  
15 Maryland Growth Initiative”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2024 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

18 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

19 Article – State Finance and Procurement

20 Section 6–226(a)(2)(i) and (ii)

21 Annotated Code of Maryland

22 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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### 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 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
3 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)212. and 213.  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

6 BY adding to  
7 Article – State Finance and Procurement  
8 Section 6–226(a)(2)(iii)214.  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
12 Article – State Government  
13 Section 9–4119(a)  
14 Annotated Code of Maryland  
15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

18 **Article – Economic Development**

19 **SUBTITLE 4E. MARYLAND GROWTH INITIATIVE.**

20 **10–4E–01.**

21 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
22 INDICATED.

23 (B) “CORPORATION” MEANS THE MARYLAND TECHNOLOGY  
24 DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION.

25 (C) “FUND” MEANS THE MARYLAND GROWTH INITIATIVE FUND.

26 (D) “INITIATIVE” MEANS THE MARYLAND GROWTH INITIATIVE.

27 **10–4E–02.**

28 (A) THERE IS A MARYLAND GROWTH INITIATIVE IN THE CORPORATION.

29 (B) THE PURPOSE OF THE INITIATIVE IS TO SUPPORT THE GROWTH OF  
30 START–UP COMPANIES IN THE STATE BY:

1           **(1) IDENTIFYING PROMISING COMPANIES IN THE PHASE BETWEEN**  
2 **EARLY START-UP DEVELOPMENT AND SCALING;**

3           **(2) PROVIDING ACCESS TO EXPERTS IN REGULATORY PROCESSES,**  
4 **MANUFACTURING, CLINICAL TRIALS, MARKET LAUNCHES, AND OTHER AREAS OF**  
5 **BUSINESS;**

6           **(3) FACILITATING PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN COMPANIES;**

7           **(4) ASSISTING IN THE ACQUISITION OF INFRASTRUCTURE INCLUDING**  
8 **OFFICE SPACE, EQUIPMENT, AND SUPPORT FOR PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT; AND**

9           **(5) PROVIDING TECHNICAL AND BUSINESS EXPERTISE.**

10 **10-4E-03.**

11           **(A) THERE IS A MARYLAND GROWTH INITIATIVE FUND.**

12           **(B) THE PURPOSE OF THE FUND IS TO PROVIDE POSTSEED AND SERIES A**  
13 **FUNDING TO QUALIFIED BUSINESSES IN THE STATE TO SCALE UP WITHOUT NEEDING**  
14 **TO RELOCATE.**

15           **(C) THE CORPORATION SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND.**

16           **(D) (1) THE FUND IS A SPECIAL, NONLAPSING FUND THAT IS NOT**  
17 **SUBJECT TO § 7-302 OF THE STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE.**

18           **(2) THE TREASURER SHALL HOLD THE FUND SEPARATELY, AND THE**  
19 **COMPTROLLER SHALL ACCOUNT FOR THE FUND.**

20           **(E) THE FUND CONSISTS OF:**

21           **(1) MONEY APPROPRIATED IN THE STATE BUDGET TO THE FUND;**

22           **(2) PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT FUNDS;**

23           **(3) INTEREST EARNINGS; AND**

24           **(4) ANY OTHER MONEY FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE ACCEPTED FOR**  
25 **THE BENEFIT OF THE FUND.**

26           **(F) THE FUND MAY BE USED ONLY:**

1 (1) FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS  
2 SECTION;

3 (2) FOR THE PURPOSES DESCRIBED IN § 10-4E-02 OF THIS SUBTITLE;  
4 AND

5 ~~(2)~~ (3) TO PAY THE COSTS NECESSARY TO ADMINISTER THE  
6 INITIATIVE.

7 (G) (1) THE STATE TREASURER SHALL INVEST THE MONEY OF THE FUND  
8 IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER STATE MONEY MAY BE INVESTED.

9 (2) ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS OF THE FUND SHALL BE CREDITED  
10 TO THE FUND.

11 (H) (1) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET BILL  
12 AN APPROPRIATION OF \$5,000,000 FOR THE INITIATIVE.

13 (2) THE FUNDING PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE USED TO  
14 SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT, ANY FUNDS THAT WOULD OTHERWISE BE PROVIDED  
15 TO THE INITIATIVE.

16 10-4E-04.

17 (A) THE INITIATIVE SHALL CREATE A CURATED LIST OF COMPANIES IN THE  
18 STATE THAT ARE BETWEEN THE START-UP AND SCALING PHASES.

19 (B) PRIORITY SHALL BE GIVEN TO COMPANIES THAT ARE:

20 (1) CURRENT OR PRIOR RECIPIENTS OF FUNDING FROM THE  
21 MARYLAND INNOVATION INITIATIVE;

22 (2) CURRENT OR PRIOR RECIPIENTS OF FUNDING FROM ANY OTHER  
23 PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE CORPORATION; ~~AND~~

24 (3) MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISES DESCRIBED IN § 9-4119(A) OF  
25 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE; AND

26 (4) LOCATED IN A HIGH-NEED OR ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED  
27 GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF THE STATE AS DETERMINED BY THE CORPORATION.

28 10-4E-05.

1           **THE CORPORATION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT THIS**  
2 **SUBTITLE.**

3                           **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

4 6–226.

5           (a)   (2)   (i)   This paragraph does not apply in fiscal years 2024 through 2028.

6                           (ii)   Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and unless  
7 inconsistent with a federal law, grant agreement, or other federal requirement or with the  
8 terms of a gift or settlement agreement, net interest on all State money allocated by the  
9 State Treasurer under this section to special funds or accounts, and otherwise entitled to  
10 receive interest earnings, as accounted for by the Comptroller, shall accrue to the General  
11 Fund of the State.

12                           (iii)   The provisions of subparagraph (ii) of this paragraph do not  
13 apply to the following funds:

14   212.   the Department of Social and Economic Mobility Special  
15 Fund; [and]

16   213.   the Population Health Improvement Fund; **AND**

17   **214.   THE MARYLAND GROWTH INITIATIVE FUND.**

18                           **Article – State Government**

19 9–4119.

20           (a)   This section applies to the following minority business enterprises:

21                           (1)   a publicly owned business if 1 or more minority persons own at least  
22 51% of the stock of the business; or

23                           (2)   any other business if 1 or more minority persons own at least 50% of  
24 the business.

25           SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
26 October 1, 2026.