



House Economic Matters Committee

TESTIMONY

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HB 804 / SB 369 – Workgroup to Study Maryland’s Emerging Digital Economy

POSITION: Support

The Maryland Association of Community Colleges representing Maryland’s 16 community colleges supports HB 804 which creates a Workgroup to Study Emerging Digital Economy and we appreciate the opportunity to designate a participant to serve on the Workgroup.

For Maryland citizens to successfully compete in the global technology marketplace, they must have the education and training to do so. The interaction and exchange of information among the Workgroup participants will provide valuable insight to the skills and training required by the manufacturing industry as well as other evolving industries. An informational partnership between business, State government, and our State's institutions of higher education will benefit all participants.

As the primary providers of workforce training in Maryland, we welcome the information and recommendations to be offered by this Workgroup. The Workgroup's findings and recommendations will assist our institutions in the development of new programs and course offerings to provide Maryland's workforce with the skills and training required to fulfill the needs of Maryland's manufacturers and businesses.

We share a common goal to create and encourage a successful Maryland business community which affords our citizens the opportunity to participate in this success through high wage employment. Our State's community colleges recognize the rapid evolution of technology and we are prepared to provide our citizens with the education and training required to meet the expectations of Maryland's manufacturing and other industry employers.