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February 12, 2021

Legislative Position

SUPPORT

Senate Bill 444 / House Bill 658

Transforming Manufacturing in a Digital Economy (Making it in Maryland)

Senate Finance Committee. House Economic Matters Committee

February 16, 2921/February 17, 2021

Dear Committee Chair and members:

Maryland manufacturing is essential to our State's future economy. New and emerging digital technologies are rapidly transforming the manufacturing industry worldwide. This movement is called the forth Industrial revolution (4.0.)

Emerging 4.0 technologies are changing how companies will operate and the new knowledge and skills required of workers. Technologies like the internet of things, artificial intelligence, 5G platforms, 3D scanning and printing, sensor technologies, virtual reality, and big data are the tools of the trade in modern manufacturing.

Senate Bill 444 and House Bill 658 create a first in the nation workgroup, of public and private sector leaders to develop a planned purposeful approach that:

- 1) Identifies the technologies and the strategies for adoption by industry.
- 2) Identifies new knowledge and skills required by workers.
- 3) Focusses on career opportunities for minorities and women.
- 4) Identifies key stakeholders in busines education government and labor to work collaboratively toward better outcomes.
- 5) Creates measurable outcomes to advance manufacturing and job growth.

Making it in Maryland is a win-win strategy. More jobs, More business, and an economy that works for all.

We support Senate Bill 444 / House Bill 658 and ask that you give it aa favorable vote.

Mike Galiazzo, Ph.D.

President