



March 26, 2021

Kite Pharma  
9021 Bennett Creek Blvd  
Frederick, MD 21704

Senator Delores Kelley  
Chair, Senate Finance

And

Senator Brian Feldman  
Vice Chair, Senate Finance

3 East  
Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Letter of Support for House Bill 1342, Partnership for Workforce Quality Program—  
Alterations

Dear Senators Kelley and Feldman:

On behalf of Kite Pharma, Inc., a cell therapy company in Maryland focused on curing cancer, I am writing to share our support for HB 1342. As a member of the growing life science community in Maryland, we know first-hand that workforce development is key to our industry's growth and the economic impact we have on the state.

HB 1342 expands the current Partnership for Workforce Quality Program (Program) which provides matching grant funding to Maryland manufacturing and technology employers for workforce training. The Program currently supports training needs related to upgrading employee skills, but with the proposed extension in the bill, the Program will also be available for training of new employees.

This Program is critically important to both to Maryland employers and employees. In surveys of Program recipients by the Department of Commerce, feedback has been consistent and positive that effective training resulted in employers foreseeing greater business growth and productivity. For employees, in a time where many of our workplaces are evolving in skill needs, this Program allows employers to consider new hires who may be new to a field or who may need additional skills to continue to grow professionally.

We encourage the Senate Finance Committee to support HB 1342.

Sincerely,



Brian J. Stamper  
Director of Manufacturing, Kite Pharma

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