



MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Brian J. Feldman

FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 2, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 459 – *Economic Development – Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance Program – Alterations*

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC) is a collaborative community, actively engaged in building stronger life science and technology companies by supporting the efforts of our individual members who are saving and improving lives through innovation. We support our member companies who are driving innovation through advocacy, education, workforce development, cost savings programs, and connecting entrepreneurial minds. The valuable resources we provide to our members help them reach their full potential making Maryland a global leader in the life sciences and technology industries. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 459 as amended by the sponsor.

Senate Bill 459, as amended by the sponsor, creates a comprehensive technical assistance program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO). The program will provide comprehensive technical assistance to any business that qualifies for financial assistance under any program in the portfolio of TEDCO. The technical assistance provided under the program shall not only incorporate existing services of TEDCO but also flexible and customized applied training services. It will include the use of a network of experienced advisors to serve as mentors and loaned executives. TEDCO will be required to include, in its annual report, a detailed description of the implementation of the program.

The creation of the program proposed in Senate Bill 459 will provide a framework to support emerging businesses who could benefit from technical assistance and mentoring services. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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