



TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
Members, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
The Honorable Darryl Barnes

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

DATE: March 23, 2021

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 1211 – *Economic Development – Maryland Technology Development Corporation – Pre-Seed Builder Fund*

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 House Bill 1211.

House Bill 1211 creates a Pre-Seed Builder Fund under the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to support the development of start-up companies run by entrepreneurs from socially or economically disadvantaged backgrounds that hinder access to traditional forms of capital and executive networks at the pre-seed stage. MTC is committed to supporting the growth of life science and technology businesses in the State and strongly supports the State's commitment to address challenges faced by entrepreneurs due to socioeconomic status limitations. The passage of Senate Bill 1211 will provide funding and a framework to achieve that objective. A favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
410-244-7000