



# MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

**TO:** The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Julian Ivey

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

**DATE:** January 27, 2021

**RE:** **OPPOSE** – House Bill 162 – *Prescription Drug Affordability Board – Upper Payment Limits and Reports*

---

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 **opposition** for House Bill 162.

House Bill 162 alters the timeframes, charges, responsibilities, and process for the work of the Prescription Drug Affordability Board that was enacted through legislation in 2019 when the Board was established. The framework for the Board's work, including the required study and timeframes for reporting and action were carefully crafted by the General Assembly following more than one Session of deliberation by all affected stakeholders. The current law reflects a careful balance of goals and objectives designed to ensure that the Board's recommendations and actions are based on a thorough and deliberative analysis. House Bill 162 undermines that balance and if enacted has the potential to result in significant unintended consequences that undermine the intent and objectives of the original legislation. MTC strongly urges the Committee to defeat this legislation and enable the Board to proceed with its work as originally enacted. MTC requests an unfavorable report.

**For more information call:**

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