

**HB 443\_FAV\_MML.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bailey, Angelica

Position: FAV



## Maryland Municipal League

*The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns*

# TESTIMONY

January 28, 2021

**Committee:** House Ways and Means

**Bill:** HB 443 – Economic Development – Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program

**Position:** Support

**Reason for Position:**

The Maryland Municipal League supports HB 443. This bill establishes the Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation to encourage the establishment and expansion of makerspaces throughout the State. The bill authorizes the Corporation to award financial assistance to local governments, designees of local governments, and nonprofit entities for the establishment of makerspaces in the State.

As our municipalities interface with schools and non-profit organizations to expand on existing technological and educational opportunities in their jurisdictions, many are exploring the establishment of makerspaces within their communities. These venues allow both young and old residents to interact with one another and learn new skills. This also provides an opportunity for children and young adults to experience alternative entertainment options before and after school.

The League therefore respectfully requests that this committee provide HB 443 with a favorable report.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Scott A. Hancock	Executive Director
Angelica Bailey	Director, Government Relations
Bill Jorch	Director, Research and Policy Analysis
Justin Fiore	Manager, Government Relations

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**HB0433\_ACM\_FAV\_C.Bambara.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bambara, Cynthia

Position: FAV



**ALLEGANY COLLEGE**  
*of MARYLAND*  
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

**HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**January 26, 2021**

**TESTIMONY**

**Submitted by**  
**Dr. Cynthia Bambara, President**

**House Bill 443 - Economic Development – Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program**  
**Position: Favorable**

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Please accept this public testimony representing Allegany College of Maryland's complete and unequivocal support of House Bill 443 (Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program), sponsored by Delegate Mike McKay. Allegany College of Maryland, in cooperation with Allegany County Government, established Western Maryland Works as a Makerspace Educational Site in 2018. Since the inception of the concept, the College has been thrilled to have served as the primary partner with Allegany County Government to continue to enhance Western Maryland Works, Allegany County's First Makerspace and the first Makerspace in Western Maryland.

House Bill 443 further supports the State of Maryland's Economic Recovery Initiatives to build a stronger economy post COVID-19. The future of the region's well-being is dependent on having an educated and skilled workforce and Allegany College of Maryland is committed to serving as the educational partner to meet this need. The College works collaboratively to create better economic development opportunities and provide the education, job training, and career preparation services needed by our residents. We will also closely work to expand current programs and create new training programs to meet the needs of our community.

This space will be one more tool that will allow for innovation, creativity, and imagination that will help to foster entrepreneurial spirit and support small business development and expansion. As part of this Project, the College has relocated its Advanced Manufacturing, Industrial Maintenance, Welding, and related training programs and equipment to this space to continue to serve this need. In addition, the College will continue to work closely with Allegany County, our closest partner, to collaborate on future training needs and external funding resources that will expand and enhance this space for our region.

Allegany College of Maryland and Allegany County Government stand together in sending a clear message to individuals, small businesses, and entrepreneurs from across the State and region that we are available and prepared to support future business creation and expansion.

Please know that your support and financial investment in HB443 (Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program) will enable Allegany County to continue to provide training to our residents, but also expand the economic base of our community. This project will serve as an important tool to provide entrepreneurial opportunity, workforce training, and community development for our County. If you have any questions about the support and commitment from Allegany College of Maryland, please feel free to contact me directly.

**CYNTHIA S. BAMBARA, PRESIDENT**

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# **Coppin State HB1455 House Testimony**

Uploaded by: Coppin State, Ron

Position: FAV



# College of Business

*Mission: CSU College of Business provides quality business education, inspires learners, and launches business careers as a path to lifelong success.*

## **Testimony Presented to the House Ways and Means Committee HB1455 – Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program March 3, 2020**

The Coppin State University (CSU) has a 120-year legacy as a community-centric institution of higher education in Baltimore City. The CSU College of Business is committed to providing “quality business education, inspiring learners, and launching business career as a path to lifelong success.”

Coppin’s commitment to community engagement led to the establishment of a formal collaboration with Open Works soon after their opening in 2016. As the first public HBCU in the nation to have a formal relationship with a community-embedded makerspace, we have completed several successful initiatives, including receiving the “2017 Greater Baltimore Committee Strategic Partnerships Award” and completing the “2019 Turning Makerspaces into Greater Places: Organizational Assessment and Economic Impact Study.” The “Greater Spaces and Places” research is the first of its kind and established an empirical basis for continuing to build sustainable social and economic impact through research, student engagement, and institutional networking.

Open Works has attracted domestic and global attention through their leadership in many success indicators such as diversity, educational programming, community partnerships, and economic impact. The presentation of Open Works’ outcomes was celebrated at the 2019 European Conference on Entrepreneurship and Innovation as potential solutions to barriers encountered by aspiring entrepreneurs in economically challenged communities. The staff and membership at Open Works value their maker community, available space for pursuit of creative endeavors, access to tools, and affordable cost as revealed by the “Greater Spaces and Places,” research report. The importance of community has led to the current research project relating to trust and relational competencies required for makerspace sustainability.

The Open Works story and best practices constitute a narrative that will be valuable to others. The non-lapsing fund administered by TEDCO will facilitate the sharing of best practices with other makerspaces and municipalities in the State of Maryland. Emerging maker organizations will improve their ability to deliver services and pathways to economic growth. The operational support provided by successful passage of this bill will help ensure the sustainability of makerspaces in Maryland by providing opportunities for greater productivity and private fundraising.

For these reasons, the Coppin State University College of Business encourages a favorable vote on HB1455.

# **HB0443 - 1.28.21 -- Economic Development - Makersp**

Uploaded by: Fry, Donald

Position: FAV

 **POSITION STATEMENT**

**TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

**HOUSE BILL 443 -- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT --  
MAKERSPACE INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM**

**Delegate McKay**

**January 28, 2021**

**DONALD C. FRY  
PRESIDENT & CEO  
GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

**Position: Support**

House Bill 443 establishes the Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program in the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO). The pilot program would award financial assistance for the establishment or expansion of makerspaces for fiscal years 2022, 2023, and 2024. The bill requires the Governor to appropriate at least \$300,000 annually for the Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program.

A makerspace is a collaborative work space for making, learning, exploring, and sharing that uses high tech to no tech tools. Makerspaces provide a tangible economic development and workforce training benefits because they provide students with access to experts in a variety of fields meant to nurture an entrepreneurial spirit that is so important in a modern economy. Providing students with new opportunities to learn and innovate through 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and training, including the use of real world applications for classroom concepts, is paramount. Makerspaces accomplish this by providing young people with future employment opportunities to either create new companies or find employment in a multitude of creative workplaces.

This bill is consistent with a key tenet in *Gaining the Competitive Edge: Keys to Economic Growth and Job Creation in Maryland*, a report published by the GBC that identifies eight core pillars for a competitive business environment and job growth:

**Strategic and effective investments in business growth.** The State must commit to substantive strategic investments, leveraged with capital assets, to nurture business and job growth. Investments should include competitive and effective tax credits, business development incentives, and tactical initiatives to nurture private investments in industry growth.

This bill is also consistent with the GBC's legislative priorities for 2021:

**Strengthen the education and workforce systems to prioritize equity, accountability, and alignment with Maryland's high-growth industry sectors.** Preparing the workforce to be successful in tomorrow's economy requires innovative thinking, industry-specific training programs, and career pathways. Policymakers should enact legislation that ensures the state's workforce has well-trained workers at all skill levels.

**GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE**

Suite 1700, 111 South Calvert Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202-6180  
410. 727-2820. Fax 410. 539-5705



**Advocate for inclusive policies and programs that strengthen economic competitiveness and job creation.** Support a strong and inclusive economic development ecosystem that improves the business climate, creates jobs, and cultivates entrepreneurship.

**For these reasons, the Greater Baltimore Committee urges a favorable report on House Bill 443.**

*The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) is a non-partisan, independent, regional business advocacy organization comprised of hundreds of businesses -- large, medium and small -- educational institutions, nonprofit organizations and foundations located in Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard counties as well as Baltimore City. The GBC is a 66-year-old, private-sector membership organization with a rich legacy of working with government to find solutions to problems that negatively affect our competitiveness and viability.*

GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

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# **HB 1455 Testimony\_2021**

Uploaded by: Holman, Will

Position: FAV

**Testimony Presented to the House Ways and Means Committee  
HB1455 – Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program  
January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021 / 1:30 PM**

Open Works is a nonprofit makerspace located in central Baltimore with a mission to make tools, technology, and the knowledge to use them accessible to all.

Open Works has quickly grown into a national leader in the maker movement, setting new precedents on the ability for makerspaces to deliver economic impact; diversifying a field that has been historically unrepresentative of minorities and women; and delivering high-quality educational programming in fabrication, design, and entrepreneurship to learners of all ages. In a field without widely documented best practices, Open Works has developed a valuable set of operational competencies that can help other municipalities in Maryland derive similar economic and educational benefits from makerspaces.

Additionally, in March 2020, Open Works stood up an emergency manufacturing project to combat the emerging Covid-19 pandemic. This project, called Makers Unite, eventually harnessed the power of 388 volunteers across the state who 3D printed parts for face shields at home and shipped them to Open Works for assembly, sanitizing, packing, and distribution. Over 56 days of manufacturing, Makers Unite produced 28,270 units of PPE at a time when normal supply chains were overwhelmed, going to clients such as the University of Maryland Medical Systems, the ATF, the Amtrak Police, and the USDA. We have reactivated this emergency manufacturing capacity just recently, making desks for low-income at-home learners. This emergency manufacturing capacity, powered by advanced digital design and fabrication equipment, is critical to preparing Maryland for the next disaster, whatever it may be. Establishing more makerspaces around the state will allow for the rapid spin-up of production to meet local needs.

The proposed legislation creates a non-lapsing fund to be administered by TEDCO that would support the dissemination of Open Works' best practices to other makerspaces and municipalities establishing makerspaces in the State of Maryland. This will help other new organizations increase their ability to deliver high-quality services to communities in need, quickly scale their audience, and produce sustainable, grassroots economic growth. Further, this bill will help ensure the financial viability of public-facing makerspaces in Maryland by providing operational support that can be leveraged for greater growth, productivity, and private fundraising.

For these reasons, Open Works encourages a favorable vote on HB1455.

# **HB 443 Testimony\_Nation of Makers**

Uploaded by: Jones-Davis, Dorothy

Position: FAV

**Dorothy Jones-Davis, Ph.D**  
**Executive Director**  
Nation of Makers  
110 University Blvd #752  
Silver Spring, MD 20918  
Tel: 202.495.0873  
[dorothy@nationofmakers.us](mailto:dorothy@nationofmakers.us)



**NATION OF  
MAKERS**

## **Testimony Presented to the House Ways and Means Committee**

### **HB1455 - Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program**

**January 27, 2021**

Nation of Makers is a national nonprofit committed to supporting America's maker organizations through community building, resource sharing, and advocacy. Much of the work we do takes place locally, on the state and regional level, supporting local maker organizations and ecosystems to enhance the impact of the maker movement nationally. Our Nation of Makers' Champions program identifies local leaders who are championing the maker movement in their region, and supports them as they foster a local ecosystem that not only furthers the maker movement, but also the economic, social, and cultural impact that maker organizations have on the local economy. In support of our mission, we are proud to partner with local maker organizations, such as Open Works, who are having a significant economic/social/cultural impact within their community, to create opportunities for all Americans to succeed through making where they live.

Open Works, in particular, has quickly grown into a national leader in the maker movement. This impactful makerspace has set a new precedent for the ability of makerspaces to deliver economic impact, diversified a field that has historically low representation of ethnic and racial minorities and women, and delivered high-quality educational programming in fabrication, design, and entrepreneurship to learners of all ages and backgrounds in Maryland. In a field with limited documented best practices, Open Works has developed a valuable set of operational competencies that can help other municipalities in Maryland derive similar economic, social, and educational benefits from the makerspaces within their community.

Additionally, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, Open Works has demonstrated the tremendous capacity and value of local makerspaces to serve their communities. Facing unprecedented medical supply shortages, Maryland found itself in a similar situation as the rest of the United States. Makers, makerspaces, and maker groups responded across the country to fill critical supply

shortages and to provide PPE for healthcare and essential workers, and our most vulnerable communities in need - producing and distributing over 37 million units of medical supplies domestically within the United States. I'm proud to report that, as a part of this incredible effort, Open Works, through its Makers Unite program, produced 28,270 face shields over 55 days for over 100 Maryland clients, from local hospitals to federal agencies.

The proposed legislation creates a non-lapsing fund to be administered by TEDCO that would support the dissemination of Open Works' best practices to other makerspaces and municipalities establishing makerspaces in the State of Maryland. This legislation will help other new organizations increase their ability to deliver high-quality just-in-time services to communities in need, quickly scale their audience, and produce sustainable, grassroots economic growth. Furthermore, this bill will help ensure the financial viability of public-facing makerspaces in Maryland by providing operational support that can be leveraged for greater growth, productivity, and private fundraising.

We are proud of the work that Open Works is doing within the great state of Maryland, and we are excited for the promise of HB1455 and the positive economic impact it will have on the entire state. For these reasons, Nation of Makers encourages a favorable vote on HB1455.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Jones-Davis', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Dorothy Jones-Davis, PhD  
Executive Director, Nation of Makers

**HB0443-WM\_MACo\_SUP.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kinnally, Kevin

Position: FAV



## **House Bill 443**

### *Economic Development - Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program*

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Ways and Means Committee

Date: January 28, 2021

From: Kevin Kinnally

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** HB 443. This bill creates a grant program to help counties, nonprofits, and other eligible applicants establish or expand makerspaces.

Makerspaces provide the space and means for community members to design, prototype, and manufacture items using tools that would otherwise be inaccessible or unaffordable such as 3-D printers, digital fabrication machines, and computer-aided design software.

This bill establishes the Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program within the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) in order to provide matching funds to local governments, nonprofits, and other eligible applicants for the establishment or expansion of makerspaces in the state.

Under this program, a wide range of technology improvements could be expected – from health care equipment to computer-assisted design to small-scale manufacturing technologies. The flexibility in the grant program could spark innovations that match needs of local employers or harness regional interests from different parts of the state.

The bill could spark economic development and promote diverse and vibrant business communities within our counties. This in turn creates jobs, contributes to enhancing quality of life, and expands the local tax base – enabling counties to better provide core services for Maryland families and businesses.

HB 443 creates an efficient and effective system for leveraging state and local resources to support creative enterprises in Maryland. Accordingly, MACo urges a **FAVORABLE** report on HB 443.



# **HB 443 testimony-makerspace -TEDCO.pdf**

Uploaded by: LeMaile-Stovall, Troy

Position: FAV



## **TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE**

### **HOUSE BILL 443 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – MAKERSPACE INITIATIVE PILOT PROGRAM**

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

**JANUARY 28, 2021**

The Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) is dedicated to economic growth through the fostering of an inclusive entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem. TEDCO discovers, invests in, and helps build great Maryland based technology companies. Recognizing its importance to entrepreneurs in Baltimore, TEDCO has partnered with Open Works for the last several years. TEDCO has been pleased to support its entrepreneurship efforts by providing support and mentorship for Open Works' EnterPRISE Venture Competition – a pitch competition and business boot camp for early-stage businesses and start-ups that require access to advanced fabrication technologies to manufacture innovative prototypes and products.

Open Works has quickly grown into a national leader in the maker movement, delivering high-quality educational programming in fabrication, design, and entrepreneurship to learners of all ages. It offers access to innovative technologies and production tools that would otherwise be cost-prohibitive to many entrepreneurs. Coppin State University's Center for Strategic Ingepreneurship (CSI) conducted a comprehensive economic impact study on Open Works since its founding in 2016. It concluded that Open Works has created 252 direct and indirect jobs in Baltimore City and across the State; while demonstrating national leadership in diversity and inclusion indicators.

House Bill 443 creates a pilot program to award financial assistance to a local government or nonprofit who seek to establish or expand a makerspace in the State. The bill would enable Open Works to use its best practices and its valuable set of operational competencies to help other communities in Maryland derive similar economic and educational benefits from makerspaces. **For these reasons, TEDCO encourages a favorable report on House Bill 443.**

# **HB443 Sponser McKay Testimony**

Uploaded by: McKay, Delegate Mike

Position: FAV

MIKE MCKAY  
Legislative District 1C  
Allegany and Washington Counties

Appropriations Committee



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HB 443: Economic Development – Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program

January 28, 2021

Madam Chair, Members of the Committee

I am here to present to you House Bill 443 – an initiative that invests in Makerspaces in Maryland. So, let's start with the simple question: What is a makerspace? It is a space that allows individuals to creatively use their talents and execute on ideas. It is a place for individuals to start a business. It is a place for communities to come together and learn a new skill. These spaces are not cookie-cutter. They must be reflective of the areas they serve, as I'll explain in a moment.

We are fortunate to have two in Maryland what many consider to be the gold standard for makerspaces – a facility off of Greenmount Avenue in Baltimore City called OpenWorks. Mr. Will Holman, the executive director has submitted favorable written testimony for HB 443.

The second makerspace that has opened in Allegany County called Western Maryland Works. Just like OpenWorks, the facility in Allegany County allows individuals to come, create and share their ideas. Placed at Allegany College of Maryland, Western Maryland Works also has the 3D printers, CNC machines, and many of the other equipment that OpenWorks has, its focus is also on workforce training.

This is important to note because of the recent closure of the Luke (Verso) Papermill. In April 2019, our community was rocked by the news of the closure of the Luke (Verso) Papermill. This 130 year institution was the source of 600+ direct jobs in our community and approximately 3,000 indirect jobs. The employee looking for a new skill needed trained and they needed trained quickly. Thanks to the makerspace and the partnership with Allegany College of Maryland, over 60 former employees are now getting trained in in-demand occupation.

This bill will provide funding through TEDCO to OpenWorks, Western Maryland Works and other facilities throughout the state. What we are seeing through the partnership of these two organizations is that makerspaces work in Western Maryland and in Baltimore. In the urban areas of the state and the rural. Putting people to work. Giving them hope is bipartisan and should be celebrated throughout the state.

Please take a look at this video that expresses the good news a Makerspace can generate for a person looking for a job.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Js8Q3MjUApQ&feature=youtu.be>

Delegate Mike McKay

# **ALCO 1-28-21 HB 443 Support Letter**

Uploaded by: Shade, Jacob

Position: FAV



# ALLEGANY COUNTY, MARYLAND

## The Board of County Commissioners

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Jacob C. Shade, *President*  
Creade V. Brodie, Jr.  
David J. Caporale

Jason M. Bennett, CPA, *County Administrator*  
T. Lee Beeman, Jr., *County Attorney*

January 28, 2021

The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chair  
House Ways and Means Committee  
House Office Building, Room 131  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Kaiser:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Allegany County to voice our support for **HB 443: Economic Development – Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program**. The bill will allocate much-needed funding to the Western Maryland Works program we started in 2018 in collaboration with Allegany College of Maryland. Since that time, the College has outfitted the makerspace for advanced manufacturing, industrial maintenance, welding, and other specialty training programs. The space offers unmatched resources for job training and career preparation that bolster the county's student retention rates. Allegany County is proud to operate this space with the Allegany College of Maryland, who has long been a strong community partner.

The proposed appropriation will assist our educators, students, and others during an economically devastating time for our state. Employment rates in Allegany County have been hit particularly hard during the Covid-19 pandemic. Without the makerspace program and its funding, access to such advanced training would be unavailable to our community. For the advancement of our residential students and workforce, we are respectfully requesting the Committee's **FAVORABLE** consideration of the bill.

Sincerely,

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Jacob C. Shade, President  
Allegany County Board of County Commissioners

# **HB 443 Makerspace Initiative Pilot (McKay) W&M 1.2**

Uploaded by: Wilkins, Barbara

Position: INFO



# Maryland

DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET  
AND MANAGEMENT

LARRY HOGAN  
*Governor*

BOYD K. RUTHERFORD  
*Lieutenant Governor*

DAVID R. BRINKLEY  
*Secretary*

MARC L. NICOLE  
*Deputy Secretary*

## **HOUSE BILL 443 Economic Development-Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program (McKay)**

### **STATEMENT OF INFORMATION**

**DATE: January 28, 2021**

**COMMITTEE: House Ways & Means**

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** HB 443 mandates an annual appropriation in the amount of \$450,000 in FY 2023, FY 2024, and FY 2025 to fund a Makerspace Initiative Pilot Program in TEDCO. Annual allocations are specified as follows: up to \$100,000 for technical assistance to be provided by Open Works Baltimore; \$50,000 for TEDCO's administrative costs; \$50,000 to establish a Makerspace Program with Western Maryland Works; and the remaining \$250,000 to be distributed among up to four counties not served by Western Maryland Works (with a maximum grant of \$100,000 for any county per fiscal year, unless approved by the TEDCO Board). Grant recipients, which include a local government, an entity designated by a local government, or nonprofit, are to provide matching funds or in-kind contributions.

**EXPLANATION:** The Department of Budget and Management's focus is not on the underlying policy proposal being advanced by the legislation, but rather on the \$450,000 mandated appropriation in FY 2023, FY 2024, and FY 2025.

DBM has the responsibility of submitting a balanced budget to the General Assembly annually, which requires spending allocations for FY 2022 to be within the official revenues estimates approved by the Board of Revenue Estimates in December 2020.

Economic conditions remain precarious as a result of COVID-19, making revenue predictions for the remainder of FY 2021 and FY 2022 highly volatile. Many individuals and households are unemployed or underemployed, with many industry sectors operating at much less than 100% capacity. Federal stimulus programs are providing much needed relief, but the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic continues to present a significant budgetary vulnerability.

The highest priority of the Administration is to work with the 2021 General Assembly in enacting the Governor's emergency Recovery for the Economy, Livelihoods, Industries, Entrepreneurs, and Families Act (SB 496/HB 612 RELIEF Act). The RELIEF Act provides \$1 billion in direct stimulus and tax relief for Maryland working families, small businesses, and those who have lost their jobs as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



**For additional information, contact Barbara Wilkins at  
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