



March 8, 2021

Kite Pharma
9021 Bennett Creek Blvd
Frederick, MD 21704

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

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

Dear Chair Kaiser:

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 House Ways and Means Committee to support HB 1342.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian J. Stamper", written in a cursive style.

Brian J. Stamper
Director of Manufacturing, Kite Pharma

cc: Delegate Alonzo Washington
Delegate Dalya Attar
Delegate Darryl Barnes
Delegate Joseph Boteler
Delegate Chanel Branch
Delegate Jason Buckel
Delegate Eric Ebersole
Delegate Jessica Fieldmark
Delegate Michele Guyton
Delegate Wayne Hartman
Delegate Kevin Hornberger
Delegate Julian Ivey
Delegate Dana Jones
Delegate Mary Ann Lisanti
Delegate Robert Long
Delegate Eric Luedtke
Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr
Delegate Edith Patterson
Delegate April Rose
Delegate Haven Shoemaker
Delegate Stephanie Smith
Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins