

- TO: The Honorable Anne R. Kaiser, Chair Members, House Ways and Means Committee The Honorable Nino Mangione
- FROM: Pamela Metz Kasemeyer J. Steven Wise Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 11, 2021

RE: SUPPORT – House Bill 1309 – 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 House Bill 1309.

House Bill 1309 includes, in the purposes of the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance Program, the provision of technical assistance to assist small businesses with attracting and accessing private capital. Access to capital is often a significant barrier to emerging businesses. The provision of the technical assistance proposed by House Bill 1309 will strengthen the program's ability to meet its objectives. A favorable report is requested.

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