TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE WAYS & MEANS COMMITTEE HOUSE BILL 337 – SALES AND USE TAX – VENDOR COLLECTION CREDIT – JOB TRAINING

Sponsor: Delegate Pat Young

January 21, 2021

DONALD C. FRY
PRESIDENT & CEO
GREATER BALTIMORE COMMITTEE

Position: Support

The Greater Baltimore Committee (GBC) supports House Bill 337, which authorizes qualified job training organizations to claim a sales tax vendor collection credit in an amount equal to 100 percent of the gross amount of the sales and use taxes that are collected by the vendor, not to exceed \$250,000 in credits per calendar year.

The GBC supports efforts to enhance quality workforce training for Maryland residents. In 2020, the GBC released a comprehensive regional workforce development report <u>Preparing for the Future</u>, which includes a series of recommendations for strengthening the workforce training system in the Greater Baltimore region and across the State of Maryland. Providing tax incentives to qualified workforce training providers will allow them to dedicate additional resources towards delivery of training and strengthen the workforce training pipeline in the State.

House Bill 337 is consistent with the GBC's <u>2021 Legislative Priorities</u> which include provisions to strengthen education and workforce systems to prioritize equity, accountability, and alignment with Maryland's high-growth industry sectors and to improve public safety though enhanced coordination among criminal justice agencies and implementation of comprehensive violence reduction strategies.

For these reasons, the Greater Baltimore Committee urges a favorable report on House Bill 337.

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.