

TO: The Honorable Guy Guzzone, Chair

Members, Senate Budget and Taxation Committee

The Honorable Jared Solomon

FROM: Christine K. Krone

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

J. Steven Wise Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: March 30, 2022

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 1446 – Universities at Shady Grove Regional Higher Education

Center – Workforce Development Programs – Funding

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 1446.

As amended, House Bill 1446 requires that if the Universities at Shady Grove (USG) Regional Higher Education Center does not receive funding in the Fiscal Year 2023 operating budget then the Governor must include a \$5 million appropriation in Fiscal Years 2024 and 2025 for USG to establish or support workforce development programs. USG's approach to higher education is designed to connect local college students to outstanding career opportunities, while providing regional employers with a highly educated, skilled workforce. MTC supports funding workforce development programs, which will provide solutions to our workforce shortage, and help students navigate the available career pathways. For these reasons a favorable report is requested.

For more information call:

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