

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE  
APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

**SENATE BILL 753**

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT - WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT – CYBERSECURITY

CANFIELD CONSULTING GROUP, LLC.  
D/B/A CANFIELD CYBERDEFENSE GROUP

POSITION: FAVORABLE

March 16, 2022

Chairwoman McIntosh, Vice Chairman Chang, and Members of this Committee thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 1334.

The Cyber Workforce Accelerator will build on existing educational programs and workforce training assets in the state, leveraging existing infrastructure in the Departments of Commerce, Education, and Labor. This bill will provide the resources needed to address Maryland's urgent and growing cybersecurity challenges.

On any given day, there are more than 22,000 unfilled cybersecurity jobs in Maryland, affecting not only our industry but cybersecurity functions that are embedded in other industries. These vacancies create security vulnerabilities in our critical infrastructure and essential services, but we don't have applicant pools with the right skills to fill our open positions.

One of the challenges we have faced is that the length of time for the intern training is too short for meaningful work contributions as we believe interns should have a deeper knowledge of every aspect of work to be able to compete and provide solutions to real-life challenges.

Through the MTIP program, Canfield Consulting Group. has been able to gain the talent of some of the best and brightest students and graduates in Maryland who have provided an immediate and satisfying impact on our business performance.

The Cybersecurity Workforce Accelerator would provide an infusion of resources to impactful training programs and will help remove barriers to building a skilled and diverse cybersecurity talent pipeline. By supporting and investing in this Bill and the Cyber Workforce Accelerator, you will train Marylanders for good-paying jobs with high growth potential. Our organization urges a favorable report. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.