

Food Opportunity LLC

6848 Reisterstown Road

Baltimore, MD 21215

Date: 3/7/2022

HB 1384: Economic Development - Industry 4.0 Technology Grant Program (Maryland Manufacturing Innovation Act of 2022)

Letter of support for HB 1384.

To whom it may concern:

My name is April N. Richardson Esq. and I am the Managing Member of Food Opportunity LLC, a woman and minority owned manufacturer in the State of Maryland. We supply baked goods to some of the nation's top retailers and we manufacture products in the State of Maryland. Simply put, we support HB 1384.

Manufacturing must continue to be on the forefront of the minds of Maryland residents, leaders and politicians. This can be done by providing resources to the industry in multiple ways. Across the nation, many states ensure that programs and fiscal support is provided to the manufacturing industry because historically, it has been the backbone and building blocks for many communities. Industry 4.0 is here and it would be incumbent upon Maryland leadership to respect its existence by ensuring that Maryland and its vibrant manufacturers are not being left behind, but leading the way. We cannot lead the way without financial and legislative support. Maryland leadership must aggressively support its manufacturing industry by passing HB 1384. The passing of this bill is a step in the right direction.

April N. Richardson Esq /s/

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