



**Senate Bill 906 -- *Economic Development - Industry 4.0 Technology Grant Program*
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee and Senate Finance Committee
March 15, 2023
Support**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), the voice of business in Metro Maryland, supports Senate Bill 906 -- *Economic Development - Industry 4.0 Technology Grant Program*

Senate Bill 906 establishes the Industry 4.0 Technology Grant Program in the Department of Commerce to provide grants to small and medium-sized manufacturing enterprises to assist those manufacturers with implementing new Industry 4.0 technology. Industry 4.0 technology means smart hardware and software manufacturing technologies. The purpose of the program is to assist enterprise manufacturers in the purchase, implementation, and related employee training of Industry 4.0 technology to increase productivity, efficiency, and competitiveness in the State and national manufacturing environment.

MCCC is supportive of policies that seek to diversify the economy and grow a variety of industries. For the Metro Maryland region and many other parts of the State, technology-focused manufacturing can create jobs and grow economic opportunities. Maryland's policymakers can play a pivotal role by providing incentives for these advanced industries to better compete here in Maryland. Providing incentives for implementing Industry 4.0 technology can help put Maryland on the cutting edge of smart hardware and software manufacturing technologies and continue to grow the economy.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports Senate Bill 906 and respectfully requests a favorable report.

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce, on behalf of our nearly 500 members, advocates for growth in business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and a proud Montgomery County Green Certified Business.

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