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March 13, 2023

Senator Guy Guzzone, Chair
and members of the Budget and Taxation Committee
11 Bladen Street, 3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Senator Guzzone,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill 0906, which seeks to create a matching grant program for SME manufacturers in Maryland to purchase advanced technologies related to Industry 4.0.

As you are aware, the manufacturing sector plays a crucial role in the economic growth and development of our state and nation. However, the current global landscape is increasingly competitive and requires that manufacturers adopt advanced technologies and processes in order to remain efficient and competitive. SMEs, in particular, may face challenges in accessing the necessary capital to invest in such technologies, which is why the creation of a matching grant program is so important.

By supporting the purchase and implementation of Industry 4.0 technologies, this bill will help SMEs in Maryland increase their productivity and efficiency, as well as improve their competitiveness in the global marketplace. This will not only benefit individual businesses but will also have positive ripple effects throughout the broader economy, including job creation and increased economic growth.

As a small Maryland based manufacturer I can attest to the expense burdens caused by the high cost of technology. I am unclear if I qualify for the proposed program however any manufacturer in Maryland who does qualify could greatly benefit from this program.

Thank you,

Amanda Gianotti

President