



March 14, 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

Dear Senator Guzzone and Budget and Taxation Committee Members:

I am writing in support of SB0906 introduced by Senator Rosapepe to create a matching grant program for SME manufacturers. Our company, Itaberco, Inc. is a manufacturer of flavors and mixes for the dessert industry. We are a second-generation, family owned and operated manufacturing facility that specializes in high quality ingredients for the food and beverage market. The types of products we produce were typically imported from competitors in Europe, where these types of flavors and mixes are predominant. We are proud to say that we are leading the market in the United States and have strong plans for growth, allowing us to create great manufacturing jobs, right here in our community. In order to do so, we need to invest in technology and innovation.

Grants such as the one included in SB0906 are crucial for the success of our manufacturing community and are of paramount importance for our companies to continue growing in the competitive environment we are in.

I thank you for your consideration and your service to this great State of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Berj Ghazarian  
President