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March 6, 2023

Maryland General Assembly  
Members of the Finance Committee  
Annapolis, MD

RE: SB 699 – Maryland Technology Development Corporation – Equitech Growth Fund and Commission

Dear Senators,

We oppose SB 699 and respectfully request that you vote against it.

This is a LOT OF MONEY to spend which will substantially increase the tax payer's burden.

It is hard to believe that there isn't already the capability within the State government, to attract high-growth business and industries that employ skilled employees.

What infrastructure improvements are needed? Are the educational institutions not preparing their students adequately now to enter high-tech workforces?

We have to ask the question, what is currently keeping these industries out of Maryland? Are there policies in place that need to be lifted? What is not desirable about Maryland that they don't consider us as a viable location?

Surely the answers to these questions can be found in some department within the State or local governments, and an existing department could be tasked with the collection and analysis of the information.

The bill is also very vague as to what infrastructure would be improved.

Sincerely,

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers