

House Bill 936 -- Income Tax – Automated External Defibrillator Tax Credit House Ways and Means Committee March 2, 2023 Support

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC), the voice of business in Metro Maryland, supports House Bill 1074 -- *Income Tax – Automated External Defibrillator Tax Credit*.

House Bill 1074 allows for an individual or a business entity to claim a credit against the State income tax for the purchase of an automated external defibrillator. An automated external defibrillator is a medical device that delivers an electric shock to victims experiencing ventricular fibrillation to restore the heart rhythm to normal. These life-saving devices are a necessity in settings like schools and athletic facilities, but also would be beneficial in the workplace.

The competitiveness of a business takes many forms. MCCC advocates for Maryland businesses to have access to as many advantages as possible when compared to businesses in surrounding and competitive jurisdictions. While passage of House Bill 1074 would most certainly save lives, it also creates a competitive advantage for businesses in Maryland that choose to take advantage of the tax credit. Allowing businesses to more affordably acquire lifesaving automated external defibrillators makes the workplace safer for its employees, and in turn makes that business more attractive to current and potential employees. House Bill 1074 is not just a life-saving measure, but also one that allows Maryland employers to better compete in a challenging labor market.

For these reasons, the Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports House Bill 936 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.