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MAJORITY WHIP

Appropriations Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

Testimony of Delegate Jazz Lewis on Economic Development – Independent Innovation Agency
of Prince George's County – Establishment

Chair Beidle and members of the Senate Finance Committee,

For the record, Delegate Jazz Lewis here to testify on behalf of the Prince George's Delegation for HB306, a bill I am proud to reintroduce. This bill reaffirms the Delegation's shared commitment to fostering an environment where innovation and entrepreneurship can thrive in Prince George's County.

This bill establishes a workgroup that will work with TEDCO to help foster an innovative and entrepreneurial-supportive economic climate in Prince George's County so that we can support small business owners and help power the local economy for the County. This workgroup will connect knowledgeable and innovative businesses with TEDCO so that we can form a cohesive and inclusive strategy to make sure that we use resources effectively to incubate the next generation of business leaders.

We have worked extensively with businesses, organizations focused on innovation, and TEDCO to ensure that we can establish a workgroup that fits in with TEDCO's mission and can better connect them with the businesses and civic leaders that can enhance that mission. This legislation will help TEDCO do its job and foster the innovative economy that we are trying to build in Prince George's County.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report.

With best,

Delegate Jazz Lewis