



MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

TO: The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
Chair, Senate Finance Committee (Maryland Department of Commerce)

FROM: Andrew G. Vetter
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DATE: February 6, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 209 – *Economic Development – Maryland Economic Development Commission – Alterations*

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC) is a collaborative community, actively engaged in building stronger life science and technology companies by supporting the efforts of our individual members who are saving and improving lives through innovation. We support our member companies who are driving innovation through advocacy, education, workforce development, cost savings programs, and connecting entrepreneurial minds. The valuable resources we provide to our members help them reach their full potential, making Maryland a global leader in the life sciences and technology industries. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **support** for Senate Bill 209.

Senate Bill 209 makes several alterations to the Maryland Economic Development Commission (MEDC), including a requirement that the Commission include at least one representative from the life sciences industry and the manufacturing industry. The MEDC is charged with a number of important duties, including advising the Governor and Secretary of Commerce on the creation and implementation of the State's economic development strategic plan. This plan will have significant downstream impacts on the State's innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. We commend the Department of Commerce for seeking to expand industry input into this process.

For these reasons, the MTC requests a favorable report on Senate Bill 209.

For more information call:

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