

TO: The Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair

Members, House Ways and Means Committee

The Honorable Lily Qi

FROM: Andrew G. Vetter

Pamela Metz Kasemeyer

J. Steven Wise

Danna L. Kauffman Christine K. Krone

DATE: February 27, 2024

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 1018 – *Manufacturing Business Personal Property Tax – Exemption*

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 House Bill 1018.

This bill would exempt personal property in the possession of a person engaged in a manufacturing business that is a small or medium-sized enterprise from the property tax. Incentivizing manufacturing activity is a key strategy for helping to grow Maryland's innovation ecosystem. Companies engaged in research and development; identification, design, or genetic engineering of biological materials for research and manufacture; and the design, development, or creation of computer software could benefit from this change. The research and development of new products is costly, and Maryland is generally a costly place to do business. We applaud the bill sponsor for introducing a policy that will help reduce the tax burden for Maryland's small and medium-sized manufacturing businesses and create an incentive to continue to innovate.

We urge a favorable report.

For more information call:

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