



February 13, 2024

Honorable Vanessa E. Atterbeary, Chair
House Ways and Means Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 131
House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Email: vanessa.atterbeary@house.state.md.us

Dear Chairwoman, Atterbeary,

The Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce, representing more than 700 businesses and organizations on Maryland's Eastern Shore, is requesting a favorable report on HB0685, the establishment of the Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission.

The Aerospace industry is responsible for the production of advanced technologies and equipment that are essential for national security and the global economy. This industry is responsible for designing and manufacturing everything from fighter jets, reconnaissance drones, spacecraft and civilian aviation.

This industry is growing in Maryland and nationally generates billions of dollars in revenues and employs millions of people.

The creation of a Maryland Aerospace and Technology Commission will assist in capitalizing on the Aerospace industry and complimentary industries by promoting innovation statewide in the fields of space exploration and commercial aerospace opportunities. Complimentary industries include electronics, software development and advanced manufacturing. All sectors that we want growing in Maryland.

For these reasons the Salisbury Area Chamber of Commerce urges a favorable report on HB0685.

Sincerely,

William R. Chambers
President/CEO

SALISBURY AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Voice for Business on Delmarva