

27 January 2025

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair  
Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 2 West Wing  
11 Bladen St.  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**RE: Senate Bill 253 – Controlled Hazardous Substance Facility Permit – Research- Facilities –  
Chemical Warfare Material Requirements – FAVORABLE**

Dear Chairman Feldman and Members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of Senate Bill (SB) 253. Ultimately, this legislation will benefit not only the State of Maryland but the United States as a whole. As a U.S. Department of Defense (DoD)-focused company that employs many veterans and works to keep our military safe, we understand the value this legislation will bring to the Warfighter, allowing them to be more effective and safer in carrying out their missions. SB 253 will provide crucial support for our nation's defense, enhancing our research and development (R&D) capabilities at Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) and modernizing the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command's Chemical Biological Center's (CBC's) mission. Once enacted, SB 253 will allow this premier chemical and biological defense research facility to act swiftly in examining and mitigating hazardous materials encountered by our Warfighters globally and develop countermeasures to render them safe.

SURVICE Engineering Company has been in Harford County since 1981, supporting the DoD and Warfighters on APG and around the world. Our role is to ensure our Warfighters are effective and safe and come home to their families, friends, and nation. We know CBC has a unique mission that only they can conduct for the DoD and our country's safety. The ability to complete their mission that this legislation will allow not only protects our Warfighters and nation but will help grow the economy in all Northeastern Maryland.

SURVICE is committed to supporting the mission of APG and its tenant organizations as one of the nation's premier defense R&D centers. For these reasons, I strongly advocate SB 253.

Sincerely,



Michael S. Ray  
VP, Army, Marine Corps, and SOCOM Sector

cc: Tom Albro, Chair of the Maryland Defense Research Coalition (MDRC)  
Joan Smith, Bryson F. Popham, P.A., MDRC Executive Director