

MWA Members

Anne Arundel County
Anne Arundel Workforce
Development Corporation *Kirkland
Murray, Executive Director*

Baltimore City
Mayor's Office of Employment
Development
MacKenzie Garvin, Director

Baltimore County
Baltimore County Department of
Economic and Workforce
Development
Jonathan Sachs, Director

Carroll County
Carroll County Workforce
Development
Heather Lee Powell, Manager

Frederick County
Frederick County Workforce
Services
Michelle Day, Director

Howard County
Howard County Office of Workforce
Development
Stephanie Adibe, Director

Lower Shore
Lower Shore Workforce Alliance
(Somerset, Wicomico, & Worcester,
Counties)
*Leslie Porter-Cabell, Workforce
Director*

Montgomery County WorkSource
Montgomery, Inc. *Anthony
Featherstone, Executive Director*

Prince George's County
Prince George's County Workforce
Development Board *Walter
Simmons, Executive Director*

Southern Maryland
Southern Maryland Job Source
(Calvert, Charles, & St. Mary's
Counties)
Ruthy Davis, Director

Susquehanna Region
Susquehanna Workforce Network,
Inc. (Cecil & Harford Counties)
Kimberly Justus, Executive Director

Upper Shore
Upper Shore Workforce Investment
Board (Caroline, Dorchester, Kent,
Queen Anne's, & Talbot Counties)
*Dan McDermott, Interim Executive
Director*

Western Maryland
Western Maryland Consortium
(Allegany, Garrett &
Washington Counties)
*Amos McCoy, Interim Executive
Director*

January 28, 2025

The Honorable Joseline A. Pena-Melnyk, Chair
House Health & Government Operations Committee
240 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk and Members of the Health & Government Operations Committee:

The Maryland Workforce Association, an Association of the thirteen (13) local workforce boards in Maryland, would like to express its support for **HB 82: Cyber Maryland Program - Revisions**. As you may know, Maryland's local workforce boards are the local experts in workforce development in your communities. They are the proverbial boots on the ground who assist job seekers find their next employment opportunity, and businesses find their next great employee. Through federal funding, Maryland's local workforce boards are able to meet job seekers where they are through providing training opportunities and supportive services such as childcare assistance, and the payment of transportation costs.

The Bill would move the Cyber Maryland program from TEDCO to the Maryland Department of Labor. As an investment in the cybersecurity workforce in Maryland, we agree that aligning this state investment with Maryland's public workforce system.

As noted in current law, the President of the Maryland Workforce Association sits on the currently comprised board. That does not change under the current legislation. We additionally note that the legislation specifically includes local workforce boards as potential recipients of grants aligned with the strategic plan of the Program.

This re-alignment of workforce dollars into the public workforce system is important and needed, as Maryland's local workforce boards are targeting cybersecurity and related industries in their communities. For these reasons, we support HB 82 and thank the Department for bringing this measure forward.

Should you have any questions or comments regarding our support for this measure, please do not hesitate to reach out to Brandon Butler, the Association's Executive Director at 240.434.5524 or mwaexecdirector@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Kirkland Murray, President
Maryland Workforce Association