



## House Bill 898

**Position: Favorable**

Committee: Senate Budget and Tax and Finance

Date: April 2, 2026

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Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (the Chamber) is the leading voice for business in Maryland. We are a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members and federated partners working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic health and growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

House Bill 898 (HB 898) extends the Build Our Future Grant Program, which provides matching grants of up to \$2 million to increase construction of innovative infrastructure for high-growth sectors, to 2030. Additionally, HB 898 extends the Research and Development Tax Credit to 2031, and the Employer Security Clearance Cost Tax Credit until 2032.

The Maryland Chamber urges the Senate to adopt the same affiliated group amendment for HB 898 that was added to Senate Bill 388 (SB 388). This amendment would establish a critical exemption for affiliated groups that are subject to the Tech Tax that was passed last year. As a result, Maryland would retain more businesses and create more jobs.

HB 898 is being considered at a time when Maryland is struggling with outmigration and job creation, and we believe HB 898 will extend valuable tools that help mitigate these issues. **For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber respectfully requests adoption of the affiliated groups amendment that was added to SB 388 and a favorable report on HB 898.**