



## Senate Bill 869

**Position: Favorable**

Committee: Finance

Date: March 5, 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, and we work to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth for Maryland businesses, employees, and families.

Senate Bill 869 (SB 869) establishes the Maryland Workforce Launch Pilot Program within the Department of Commerce to provide customized, no-cost workforce training in partnership with community colleges as a tool to attract and grow strategic industries in the State.

Maryland's ability to compete for new investment and job creation increasingly depends on the strength and responsiveness of its workforce pipeline. By aligning workforce training with the needs of targeted industries and offering tailored training solutions to prospective employers, this program would position Maryland more competitively when recruiting businesses considering relocation or expansion.

The Maryland Workforce Launch Pilot Program represents a strategic approach to workforce development by leveraging the expertise of the State's community colleges and coordinating efforts through the Department of Commerce. Programs like this can help close skills gaps, support business growth, and ensure Maryland workers are prepared for in-demand careers.

For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce respectfully requests a **favorable report on SB 869**.