



House Health Committee  
February 10, 2026

House Bill 27 – *Maryland Technology Development Corporation – Long COVID Innovation Grant and Loan Program*  
**SUPPORT**

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC), with over 800 members, is the State’s largest association of technology companies. Our vision is to propel Maryland to be the country’s number one innovation economy for life sciences and technology. MTC brings the State’s life sciences and technology communities into a single, united organization that empowers members to achieve their goals through advocacy, networking, and education. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **support** for House Bill 27.

House Bill 27 requires that the Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO) establish a grant and loan program to provide funding for Long COVID innovation. The bill includes a requirement for TEDCO to contract with an independent review committee composed of scientific experts in the field of Long COVID and establish the Maryland Long COVID Research Fund and that the interest earnings of the Fund be credited to the Fund.

Thousands of Marylanders are potentially disposed to lingering COVID symptoms that affect their ability to participate fully in daily life. The need for targeted Long COVID research and supportive technologies is both urgent and ongoing. By establishing a dedicated Long COVID Innovation Grant and Loan Program within TEDCO, House Bill 27 leverages existing healthcare and research infrastructure to accelerate the development of tools that can improve patient outcomes, while simultaneously creating high-quality research and development jobs.

By advancing Long COVID innovation, Maryland can further strengthen its economy and reinforce its position as a proficient center for research. Investments in this area will stimulate job creation across research, technology, and healthcare sectors, while drawing new federal and private funding into the State. In addition to the creation of jobs, the outcomes from this program will allow Marylanders who are suffering from the symptoms of Long COVID to return to work in fuller capacities.

Importantly, the requirement for an independent scientific review committee ensures that funding decisions will be guided by scientific expertise and patient centered priorities. The creation of the Maryland Long COVID Research Fund, with interest earnings reinvested into the Program, provides a sustainable structure that can support long term innovation.

For these reasons, MTC requests a favorable review of House Bill 27.

**For more information call:**

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