



House Ways and Means Committee

March 5, 2026

House Bill 1256 – *Income Tax – Angel Investor Tax Credit*

POSITION: 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 1256.

House Bill 1256 creates an Angel Investor Tax Credit that will encourage private investment in early-stage Maryland companies. House Bill 1256 allows qualified investors to receive a credit against the State income tax for a 33% of their investment in a qualified Maryland company. This helps lower the financial risk for individuals and entities willing to commit capital to Maryland startups, encouraging more frequent and larger investments in companies that are developing important technologies, expanding operations, and creating high-quality jobs in Maryland.

Early-stage companies often struggle to access capital before they are large enough to attract venture capital or institutional investors. Angel investors help fill that gap, but these investments are inherently high risk. Granting these investors a tax credit shows that Maryland is committed to growing its tech industry by sharing a portion of that risk, making the State more attractive to private investors to support Maryland-based startups. Access to early-stage investment is also one of the most critical factors in determining whether a startup succeeds in Maryland or relocates.

Maryland has many innovative people, companies, and world-class research institutions, but these assets cannot reach their full potential without access to capital in the critical early stages of growth. House Bill 1256 helps to make early-stage investments more attractive and financially viable. For these reasons, the MTC urges a favorable report on House Bill 1256.

For more information call:

Andrew G. Vetter
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
Christine K. Krone
410-244-7000