

SENATE BILL 459

C8

11r2043
CF 11r2042

By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 20, 2021

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Economic Development – Maryland Small Business Innovation Research**
3 **Technical Assistance Program – Alterations**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the purpose of the Maryland Small Business Innovation
5 Research Technical Assistance Program to include providing technical assistance to
6 assist small businesses with attracting and accessing private capital; and generally
7 relating to the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance
8 Program.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article – Economic Development
11 Section 10–4B–01
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Economic Development**

17 10–4B–01.

18 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

19 (2) “Corporation” has the meaning stated in § 10–401 of this title.

20 (3) “Phase 0” means the initial application process for the federal Small
21 Business Innovation Research grant program or the federal Small Business Technology
22 Transfer grant program.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (4) "Phase I" means a small business has received up to \$150,000 in federal
2 Small Business Innovation Research funding for approximately 6 months or federal Small
3 Business Technology Transfer funding for 1 year, with the meaning stated in 15 U.S.C. §
4 638.

5 (5) "Phase II" means a small business has received up to \$1,000,000 in
6 funding for up to 2 years to expand Phase I results, with the meaning stated in 15 U.S.C. §
7 638.

8 (6) "Program" means the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research
9 Technical Assistance Program.

10 (b) There is a Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical
11 Assistance Program in the Corporation.

12 (c) The purpose of the Program is to provide technical assistance to small
13 businesses in the State by:

14 (1) encouraging small businesses, including economically disadvantaged
15 small businesses, to apply for grants under the federal Small Business Innovation Research
16 grant program and the federal Small Business Technology Transfer grant program; [and]

17 **(2) ASSISTING SMALL BUSINESSES WITH ATTRACTING AND**
18 **ACCESSING PRIVATE CAPITAL; AND**

19 **[(2)] (3)** providing grant applicants with technical assistance, including
20 training assistance and assessments through Phases 0, I, and II of development.

21 (d) To qualify for participation, a small business shall:

22 (1) have its principal business operations located in the State, have over
23 half of its workforce working in the State, and intend to maintain its principal business
24 operations in the State; and

25 (2) have not more than 50 employees.

26 (e) The Corporation may adopt regulations establishing additional criteria for
27 eligibility and allocation of assistance.

28 (f) In accordance with the requirements of Division II of the State Finance and
29 Procurement Article, the Corporation may procure a nonprofit organization located in the
30 State to provide services under the Program.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 October 1, 2021.