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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE
1987-2020
27th Legislative District



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**Testimony of Senator Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
Senate Bill 389 - Economic Development –
Maryland E-Nnovation Initiative Program – Extension and Alteration**

Chairman Guzzone and Fellow Committee Members:

Senate Bill 389 is an extension of legislation that was unanimously passed out of the Senate in 2014, which had a five-year sunset. This legislation will continue funding for the Maryland E-Nnovation Initiative Program for another five years from fiscal year 2022 through 2026 and will increase the funding level to \$12.5 million.

The E-Nnovation Initiative creates a unique recruitment tool for university and State officials to attract basic and applied research projects in scientific and technical fields to colleges and universities throughout Maryland. Over the past five years, the Program has successfully built on existing clusters of research and innovation to keep Maryland a national competitor in technological progress. As our State continues to encourage technology development and job growth, the E-Nnovation Initiative leverages State funds to match funds from private donors to participating universities and colleges including, Washington College, University of Maryland Baltimore, Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, College of Southern Maryland, and the University of Maryland College Park.

In a global economy, it is essential that Maryland remains at the forefront of innovation. For these reasons, I respectfully ask the Budget and Taxation Committee for a favorable report on Senate Bill 389.