



*Creating Communities of
Innovation*

ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY RESEARCH PARKS

January 28, 2021

Chairman Guy Guzzone
Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
3 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

SB 160: Position: Favorable

Dear Chairman Guzzone:

On behalf of the Association of University Research Parks (AURP), I would like to offer support for SB 160, Maryland Innovation Investment Tax Credit Reserve Fund.

AURP is a global nonprofit representing research parks and innovation districts in 42 states and 12 countries. We have many members in Maryland, including UM College Park Discovery District (Prince George's County), Montgomery County PIC-MC (Montgomery County), Viva White Oak (Montgomery County), UM Baltimore County BW Tech (Baltimore County) and UMB BioPark (Baltimore City). Additionally, we have corporate members, including Whiting Turner and Wexford Science and Tech, both headquartered in Baltimore City.


Our AURP Washington DC area office is in the We Work in the UM Discovery District in College Park, Maryland.

Our parks nationally house thousands of technology companies. Senate Bill 160 will give the technology companies in our Maryland parks greater flexibility in applying for the tax credits provided in the bill. While many of our companies work in cybersecurity, we have companies in our parks working on many other technologies including artificial intelligence, material science, quantum computing, energy technologies, advanced manufacturing, and composites. SB 160 will expand the class of technologies eligible for the Maryland Innovation Investment Tax Credit to better align with the technologies our companies are using and, along with other tools, such as federal SBIR/STTR funds, can help build the Maryland technology economy.

We applaud the Maryland Department of Commerce for introducing this legislation and happy to provide additional information to you or other members of the Committee.

We believe SB 160 will be of great advantage to our research parks and the technology companies residing in them.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian Darmody". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.

Brian Darmody
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