



MARYLAND  
TECH COUNCIL



# WORKING TOGETHER FOR A BETTER FUTURE



2019 POLICY PLATFORM

# DEAR MEMBERS AND POLICYMAKERS,

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC) is a collaborative community, actively engaged in building stronger life sciences and technology companies by supporting the efforts of our individual members who are protecting our national security and improving the quality of life through innovation. MTC has emerged as the region's voice of over 450 innovative member companies to promote policy that creates a favorable business climate for industry companies to thrive and grow. MTC believes there is tremendous opportunity to foster an innovative environment for cutting edge life sciences and technology companies.

The 2019 Policy Platform reflects the top priorities for spurring innovation and achieving our vision to position Maryland as a top-three innovation economy for the life sciences and technology communities. To that end, our legislative committee and coalition meets regularly to evaluate emerging policy issues, to update our priority agenda items and to develop

an advocacy strategy promoting a positive business climate.

We support policies that are patient-centered, holistic and promote patient access to cures. This approach is also a proven job creator, helping to employ more than 34,000 Marylanders in good, high-paying jobs in the biotechnology field, with billions invested in the state annually. We will be paying close attention this legislative session and will oppose legislative proposals that could harm patient access to needed care by undermining competition, disrupting existing drug product availability or reducing investment in the innovation ecosystem in Maryland.

We will focus on targeted incentives that grow innovative companies, whether they are in early, middle or later stages of development. This also includes a focus on Maryland's transportation infrastructure to alleviate traffic and improve aging highways, roads and

bridges. It is important to cultivate a dynamic higher education system with a focus on STEM disciplines that trains a pipeline of workers needed to fill the jobs of today and tomorrow. A fair and predictable tax climate is critical to keep Maryland competitive and allow businesses every opportunity to succeed and create jobs.

We will influence and support legislation to keep Maryland a national leader in entrepreneurship and innovation. Together with our members and policymakers, we can find solutions to Maryland's problems and help create an environment where innovative companies can grow and succeed.

Sincerely,



**Martin Rosendale**  
Chief Executive Officer, Maryland Tech Council

## LEGISLATIVE COALITION



For more information on how to get involved, contact Michelle Ferrone at [Michelle@mdtechcouncil.com](mailto:Michelle@mdtechcouncil.com) or 240.243.4047

# 2017-18 ADVOCACY SUCCESSES

We worked countless hours, attended hundreds of meetings, met weekly with our Legislative Committee and formed a 42 organization Legislative Coalition to protect and promote your business. Last session we accomplished:



## inMD Internship Platform

Successfully getting allocations to roll out inMD Statewide Internship in the Governor's proposed budget for 2019.



## Internships

Successfully passing HB 527 Higher Education - Maryland Technology Internship Program - to provide Maryland companies reimbursement for up to lesser of 50% or \$3000 per student that completes an internship.



## Cyber

Successfully passing SB228 Cyber Security Incentive Tax Credits, giving tax credits to investors in cyber security companies each year and tax credits to purchasers of cyber solutions in tax credits each year through 2022.



## Biotechnology

Successfully defeated pricing legislation and reporting legislation that would significantly harm the biotech industry.



## BIO Investor Tax Credit

Defeated legislation that would put this program at risk.



## R&D Tax Credits

Defeated legislation that would significantly reduce the amount of credit that goes to many of our companies in R&D in the state.



## Director Liability

Defeated legislation that would have prevented Maryland companies from attracting directors to their boards.



## Metro Funded

Assisted in getting the Metro funding bill passed to help with transportation to get employees to and from work.

# MAINTAINING MOMENTUM

1

## Continuous Advocate Engagement and Legislator Education

The Maryland Legislature is responsive to efforts to educate lawmakers about the overwhelming benefits of the life sciences and technology industries as well as the innovation economy. The Maryland Tech Council will work with advocates to continue sharing this message.

2

## Turning Maryland Tech Council Members into Life Sciences Ambassadors

The Maryland Tech Council's best advocates are the life sciences members committed to developing world-class patient solutions in Maryland. MTC will educate members about the importance of advocacy and equip them to be effective life sciences champions.

3

## Elevating the Unique, Authoritative Voice of MTC

The Maryland Tech Council has a unique voice as both an innovative leader and a patient advocate. MTC will continue to establish its reputation as a thought leader in championing the contributions of the life sciences and technology industries.

# TOP PRIORITIES

## LIFE SCIENCES INNOVATION

Increase availability of risk capital to support technology and life sciences job growth. Support workforce development programs and policies.

## COMPETITIVENESS

MTC is committed to ensuring Maryland is competitive as compared to other states. We are committed to supporting legislation to increase tax credits for research and development, lowering taxes for companies doing business in Maryland and defending against any legislation that negatively impacts our technology and life sciences companies' ability to compete.

## INNOVATION JOB GROWTH

The Maryland Tech Council supports legislation and budget allocations that incentivize our innovative companies to increase the number of employees in the state of Maryland.

## INCREASING INVESTMENT IN INNOVATION GROWTH COMPANIES

While Maryland saw a spike in angel and venture investment in innovative companies, there is still a large shortfall. The Maryland Tech Council supports legislation that encourages equity investment into innovation companies including the biohealth investor tax credit, angel investor tax credit and legislation reducing estate planning taxes that cause exited entrepreneurs to move out of Maryland.

## INFRASTRUCTURE

In order to remain competitive, Maryland must have the proper infrastructure including 5G infrastructure deployment and advanced telecommunication services. The Maryland Tech Council supports legislation that supports this.

## PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

The Maryland Tech Council is committed to supporting legislation that encourages innovative products including cyber security, biotechnology, advanced manufacturing and artificial intelligence.

## INTERNSHIPS AND APPRENTICESHIPS

The Maryland Tech Council supports any legislation or budget allocations that support the inMD statewide internship and apprenticeship platform and encourage companies to employ interns and apprentices in innovation jobs.

# ABOUT THE MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

## MTC MISSION STATEMENT

At the Maryland Tech Council, we believe in saving lives, securing our nation and improving the quality of life through innovation. We support our member companies who are driving innovation through advocacy, education, workforce development, cost savings and connecting entrepreneurial minds.

## MTC VISION STATEMENT

The Maryland Tech Council's vision is to position Maryland as a top-three innovation economy for technology and life sciences as well as becoming the next "Silicon Valley" for these two industries.

## STRATEGIC PARTNERS





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