



To Lead, Advocate and Connect as the Voice of Business

House Bill 1413: The Blueprint for Maryland's Future

Ways and Means
Appropriations

March 13, 2019

SUPPORT

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce ("MCCC"), as the voice of Montgomery County business, **supports House Bill 1413** and the recommendations of the Kirwan Commission. In particular, MCCC appreciates the focus on providing students "instruction and skills set to international standards that will enable them to be successful in the 21st-century economy and productive citizens of the state" and enabling our students to "reach their full promise and potential and be ready for success in college and a rewarding career by the end of high school."

This legislation specifically mentions career and technology education programs that are developed in partnership with the private sector and MCCC stands ready and excited to be a partner in this incredibly important effort.

Montgomery County is an economic engine of the state. The quality educational system is a key feature of the county. When our students are not reaching their full potential and our schools suffer, the chilling ripple effects will be felt throughout the economy. Conversely, the multiplier effect will be substantial if we are able to address the challenges of our school system and its students. Some of the immediate benefits of the proposal include top ranked schools that attract businesses to our state, access to opportunity for all students, and a skilled talent pool for employers.

For these reasons, **we request House Bill 1413 be given a favorable report.**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce (MCCC) accelerates the success of our nearly 500 members by advocating for increased business opportunities, strategic investment in infrastructure, and balanced tax reform to advance Metro Maryland as a regional, national, and global location for business success. Established in 1959, MCCC is an independent non-profit membership organization and is proud to be a Montgomery County Green Certified Business.