



To Lead, Advocate and Connect as the Voice of Business

House Bill 886: Income Tax - Angel Investor Tax Credit Program

Ways and Means

February 27, 2019

SUPPORT

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce ("MCCC"), as the voice of Montgomery County business, supports House Bill 886, which allows a credit against the State income tax for a certain percentage of an investment made in a qualified innovation business, not to exceed \$50,000, or \$100,000 for a qualified investor that is a married couple filing jointly or a pass-through entity.

MCCC advocates for policies that promote strategic investment, a positive business climate and balanced tax reform to further the success of our members and to affirm Maryland's place as relevant and competitive in the regional and global marketplace. To compete, Maryland must retain existing businesses, encourage the formation of new businesses and even attract businesses from other locations to come here. This helps to expand access to opportunities for our residents and grow the tax base through more jobs and greater economic activity.

One of the many challenges that businesses face is access to capital. Through programs such as the Angel Investor Tax Credit Program, capital can be put toward qualified entities to support their growth while, at the same time, giving the investor credit for the risk they are assuming.

In sum, MCCC supports efforts to encourage more business activity, in this case among emerging businesses, while at the same time offering a tax credit to those investors who help to provide much needed capital.

For these reasons, **we request House Bill 886 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.