

SENATE BILL 583

C8

0lr3563
CF HB 521

By: **Senator Feldman**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2020

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Maryland Small Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance Program –**
3 **Establishment**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the Maryland Small Business Innovation Research
5 Technical Assistance Program in the Maryland Technology Development
6 Corporation; establishing the purpose of the Program; requiring small businesses to
7 meet certain qualifications for participation in the Program; authorizing the
8 Corporation to adopt certain regulations; requiring the Corporation, in accordance
9 with certain provisions of law, to procure a certain entity to provide services under
10 the Program; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Maryland Small
11 Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance Program.

12 BY adding to

13 Article – Economic Development

14 Section 10–4A–01 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 4A. Maryland Small
15 Business Innovation Research Technical Assistance Program”

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (2018 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
19 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article – Economic Development**

21 **SUBTITLE 4A. MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH TECHNICAL**
22 **ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

23 **10–4A–01.**

24 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 INDICATED.

2 (2) "CORPORATION" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 10-401 OF THIS
3 TITLE.

4 (3) "PHASE 0" MEANS THE INITIAL APPLICATION PROCESS FOR THE
5 FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM OR THE
6 FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER GRANT PROGRAM.

7 (4) "PHASE I" MEANS A SMALL BUSINESS HAS RECEIVED UP TO
8 \$150,000 IN FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH FUNDING FOR
9 APPROXIMATELY 6 MONTHS OR FEDERAL SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY
10 TRANSFER FUNDING FOR 1 YEAR, WITH THE MEANING STATED IN 15 U.S.C. § 638.

11 (5) "PHASE II" MEANS A SMALL BUSINESS HAS RECEIVED UP TO
12 \$1,000,000 IN FUNDING FOR UP TO 2 YEARS TO EXPAND PHASE I RESULTS, WITH
13 THE MEANING STATED IN 15 U.S.C. § 638.

14 (6) "PROGRAM" MEANS THE MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS
15 INNOVATION RESEARCH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

16 (B) THERE IS A MARYLAND SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH
17 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN THE CORPORATION.

18 (C) THE PURPOSE OF THE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL
19 ASSISTANCE TO SMALL BUSINESSES IN THE STATE BY:

20 (1) ENCOURAGING SMALL BUSINESSES, INCLUDING ECONOMICALLY
21 DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESSES, TO APPLY FOR GRANTS UNDER THE FEDERAL
22 SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH GRANT PROGRAM AND THE FEDERAL
23 SMALL BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER GRANT PROGRAM; AND

24 (2) PROVIDING GRANT APPLICANTS WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE,
25 INCLUDING TRAINING ASSISTANCE AND ASSESSMENTS THROUGH PHASES 0, I, AND
26 II OF DEVELOPMENT.

27 (D) TO QUALIFY FOR PARTICIPATION, A SMALL BUSINESS SHALL:

28 (1) HAVE ITS PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS LOCATED IN THE
29 STATE, HAVE OVER HALF OF ITS WORKFORCE WORKING IN THE STATE, AND INTEND
30 TO MAINTAIN ITS PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS IN THE STATE;

31 (2) HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT IN THE STATE

1 THROUGH THE STATE'S TECHNOLOGY ECOSYSTEM; AND

2 (3) HAVE NOT MORE THAN 250 EMPLOYEES.

3 (E) THE CORPORATION MAY ADOPT REGULATIONS ESTABLISHING
4 ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY AND ALLOCATION OF ASSISTANCE.

5 (F) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF DIVISION II OF THE
6 STATE FINANCE AND PROCUREMENT ARTICLE, THE CORPORATION SHALL
7 PROCURE A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION LOCATED IN THE STATE TO PROVIDE
8 SERVICES UNDER THE PROGRAM.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2020.