



February 20, 2019

The Honorable Maggie McIntosh
Appropriations Committee
Room 121, House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: HB 0440 – Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) Expansion Act of 2019
– **Support**

Dear Delegate McIntosh:

HB 0440 would repeal the limit on the number of Pathways in Technology Early College High (P-TECH) Planning Grants that may be awarded to a local school system in each year; removing the prohibition against new P-TECH Planning Grants being awarded to establish a new P-TECH school until after the 2016-2017 cohort of P-TECH students completes the 6-year pathway sequence; and repealing certain intent language regarding a prohibition against additional P-TECH schools.

P-TECH is an amazing program that will help improve our workforce in the sector of technology. We should be encouraging our students to pursue an education and help give them a jumpstart. Our employers need more qualified technologists. This program is the way to make it happen. It may also help entice other tech companies to relocate to our state.

The Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, a business advocacy organization of over 600 members, supports this bill and asks that you give it a favorable report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Mike McMullin'.

Mike McMullin
President
Carroll County Chamber of Commerce

CC: Delegate Haven Shoemaker
Senator Justin Ready