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March 10, 2014

The Honorable Michael E. Busch Speaker, Maryland House of Delegates H-101 State House State Circle Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Speaker Busch:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Montgomery Business Development Corporation (MBDC), we are writing to express our support for House Bill 1323-Supplemental Public School Construction Matching Program.

HB 1323 will ensure a reliable funding source for one of our best assets-our public education system. This legislation establishes a funding partnership between the State and County to continue to provide quality education to residents. Our workforce is our top asset and we must continue to invest in our workforce by supporting our public education system. Additionally, we must ensure our state and region maintains its competitive edge.

The MBDC strives to effect positive changes within the economy of Montgomery County and our region, as well as foster business success. We believe that by adapting to changing conditions, competing to attract businesses and residents, and enabling the development of innovative products and services, we can diversify our culture and accommodate beneficial growth.

For the above reasons, we urge passage of HB 1323. Thank you for your leadership of our public education system.

Sincerely,

Brin A. Gragelt

Brian A. Gragnolati Chair

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Holly Sears Sullivan President

cc: Mr. Isiah Leggett, Montgomery County Executive
Mr. Craig Rice, President, Montgomery County Council
and Councilmembers
Mr. Josh Starr, Superintendent, Montgomery County Public School System