



March 9, 2023

The Honorable Tim Kaine
United States Senate
231 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Warner
United State Senate
703 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Kaine and Warner:

On behalf of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, I would like to express my support for Arlington Economic Development (AED) and its partners in scaling the Arlington Talent Pilot Program (ATPP) with Congressional Direct Spending.

The tech industry often outpaces academia, leaving a talent shortage for employers, particularly for software developers. Northern Virginia tech employers frequently look to state and local government for help finding software developers quickly. By leveraging an applied work model designed to accommodate residents with a wide variety of backgrounds, the ATPP will help employers find software developers quickly.

The ATPP model strengthens Arlington's ability to attract, recruit, and support small and start-up companies. The model will also help residents of Virginia upskill into higher paying jobs and promote new pathways to opportunity within the Commonwealth.

AED's commitment to Arlington's tech industry includes providing local tech employers with access to qualified candidates and resources for small, emerging, and high-growth companies. ATPP will help train the next generation of software development professionals and serve as a regional and national model for addressing a national competitiveness challenge.

The Arlington Chamber of Commerce would like to offer our support for the grant application submitted by AED and its partners.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kate Bates". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kate Bates
President & CEO