

Wayne A. Smith President & CEO March 21, 2019

Dr. Mark T. Brainard President Delaware Technical Community College P.O. Box 897 Dover, DE 19903

Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children Roy Proujansky, MD, Chief Executive of Nemours Delaware Valley Operations

Bayhealth Terry Murphy, President & CEO

Beebe Healthcare Jeffrey M. Fried President & CEO

Christiana Care Health System Janice E. Nevin, M.D. MPH President & CEO

Nanticoke Health Services Steven A. Rose, RN, MN President & CEO

Saint Francis Healthcare Daniel Sinnott President & CEO

Delaware Healthcare Association Wayne A. Smith President & CEO

Support for Capital Funding for Delaware Technical Community College

Dear President Brainard,

Delaware Technical Community College provides critical education for health care professionals our member hospitals and the entire state rely upon to provide the workforce necessary to address the health needs of those in the communities we serve. <u>We support SS1 for SB50</u> that creates bonding authority for DTCC as well as a dedicated funding source of annual appropriated monies.

This bill will allow the College to address its large portfolio of deferred maintenance projects that currently exists and which we understand exceeds \$100 million. Deferred maintenance represents a lack of investment in infrastructure necessary to support ongoing safe and efficient operations. The longer necessary capital projects in this category are deferred, the more expensive they often become and the more of a threat they present of failure that could degrade operations.

For our member hospitals and health systems, having the workforce necessary to care for Delawareans is critical. The college's many health programs have played a significant role in educating our healthcare workforce and will continue to fill this critical need in the future. With an aging population (Delaware is the seventh oldest state in the nation), the need for well-educated health care employees in sufficient numbers will only grow. The College must have the resources – including the capital resources this bill would better ensure – to meet this need.

Our members have long viewed our association with the College as an important partnership for developing the highly skilled, professional and compassionate healthcare workforce that cares for all of us. We are pleased to provide our support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,

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Wayne A. Smith President & CEO