



THE COMMITTEE OF 100

FYI

March 24, 2016

Dover Update

Senate Bill 200

The Committee of 100 strongly supported SB 200, the Delaware Commitment to Innovation Act. SB 200 expands the R&D Tax Credit by lifting the overall \$5 Million cap on the program and making the Tax Credit refundable. It is considered an important part of the effort to keep DuPont spin-offs in Delaware and to attract new technology companies. The bipartisan bill was passed by both Senate and House, and signed into law by the Governor on March 17, 2016.

Executive Director Paul Morrill submitted written testimony to the House Committee on Revenue and Finance on March 16th, stating, “SB 200 greatly strengthens Delaware’s Research and Development Tax Credit and puts Delaware in the top rank of states in terms of its attractiveness to research and technology based employers.

Intellectual property and a highly educated workforce are two of Delaware’s greatest assets. SB 200 leverages those strengths and will give the state an important new tool to attract and retain the research and technology employers that will form the core of Delaware’s 21st Century economy.”

You can read the full Committee of 100 testimony [here](#).

House Bill 283

Committee of 100 Executive Director Paul Morrill testified before the House Labor Committee on March 16th in opposition to HB 283, the Veterans, Skilled Workers, and Community Workforce Act. The bill requires that on all state-funded construction, public works, or improvement projects that contractors and subcontractors must draw 30% of their workforce from the Representative District where the project is located, and 5% of their workforce from eligible Delaware veterans. Such projects are to be governed by a Project Labor Agreement with the Delaware Building and Construction Trades Council.

The House Labor Committee voted to release the legislation to the floor. While C100, the State Chamber and the hostile audience weren’t successful at the hearing, we helped to create doubt in legislators minds as to whether this is a good bill for the construction industry and Delaware.

“It appears to us this is about 10 percent of the construction workforce trying to control 100 percent of the public construction budget, and we think that’s just plain wrong,” said Paul Morrill of the Committee of 100 to the *Delaware State News*. Read the full article [here](#).

Committee of 100 Update

March Dinner Meeting Recap

Governor Jack Markell addressed a dinner meeting of the Committee of 100, possibly for the last time as Governor, on March 15th. The Governor spoke to over 130 C100 members and guests about the successful effort to retain the headquarters of two of the three Dow/DuPont spin-off companies, noting that it was a high stakes team effort. “We could easily have lost them all,” he said.

The campaign to keep the Dow/DuPont agriculture company in Delaware was short and intense, beginning before the holidays and concluding with the favorable decision in late February. The Governor credited DEDO, the Congressional Delegation, New Castle County, higher education, and businesses for joining together and quickly executing a retention plan.

Markell singled out DEDO Director Bernice Whaley and Andy Lubin, President of Delaware Financial Group, both of whom were in attendance, for their expertise and hard work in the effort. There are ongoing efforts to find employment for the 1,700 DuPont scientists who have been let go, and to find new companies to occupy now vacant laboratory space at the Experimental Station and Stine-Haskell.

The efforts to keep the highly educated workforce in Delaware may be unprecedented, Governor Markell said. Clusters of scientific talent are being marketed to companies around the country and internationally as reasons to locate business units in the state.

Executive Director Paul Morrill noted that the Governor had spoken at C100 dinners seven of his eight years in office, missing only 2011. Morrill thanked the Governor for his leadership, saying that he and The Committee of 100 had been largely aligned in their priorities throughout his tenure, and had been close partners in the campaign to increase transportation funding.

April Member Reception and Annual Meeting

Plan to join your colleagues for the next C100 Member Reception on Tuesday, April 19th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the University & Whist Club. Enjoy light hors d’oeuvres, cash bar and good company. The Reception will follow a very brief Annual Meeting of the members of The Committee of 100.

The Board of Directors encourages you to take advantage of the low-cost format to bring along additional associates in your organization, as well as potential members, as your guests. At only \$25 per person, it is an affordable way to introduce younger business professionals to the networking power of The Committee of 100.

Register today at [April 2016 Reception Registration](#)! Please note the new section on the Registration Form where you can “round-up” your reception fee to donate \$5 to the Committee of 100 Scholarship Fund.

Save The Date

*Committee of 100 Annual Auction
December 7, 2016
Hotel Du Pont Gold Ballroom*



April 21, 2016

Chase Center - Wilmington, DE 7:30am-12pm

Information on Sponsorship Opportunities & Tickets: www.EDiSCompany.com/Institute

Building an Entrepreneurial Economy for Delaware

Keynote by Richard Florida

Director, Martin Prosperity Institute at the University of Toronto

Global Research Professor, New York University

Co-Founder and Senior Editor, The Atlantic City Lab

Reviving Delaware's Economy, Facing into the Future

Jon Roberts

Principal and Managing Director of TIP Strategies

Jon will be providing his findings, insight and creative solutions for Delaware's economic challenges.