



# THE COMMITTEE OF 100

## FYI

## February 25, 2016

### Dover Update

During its January session, the General Assembly passed a corporate income tax (CIT) reform bill, HB 235, which appears to have been an important factor in Dow/DuPont's decision to site the post-merger agriculture company headquarters in Delaware. Supported by The Committee of 100 and the entire business community, the Delaware Competes Act is also expected to be key in Chemours' headquarters decision. The bill had broad bi-partisan backing and was sponsored by leaders of both parties in both houses. The bill reduces over time the number of factors used to calculate corporate income taxable in Delaware from three down to one – sales. The bill results in a revenue decline of \$8 Million in Fiscal Year 2017 and a loss of \$48 million over 3 years.

The story behind the effort to capture the Dow/DuPont agriculture headquarters showcases Delaware's ability to unite and focus impressive political and business resources in a short period of time. The Governor, the Congressional delegation, the General Assembly, New Castle County, the University of Delaware, and the business community all pulled together to develop and execute the retention plan in just a matter of weeks. Read the excellent backstory published in the [News Journal](#). The Delaware Way at its best.

Governor Markell credited Delaware's skilled workforce as an important part of Dow/DuPont's decision. The Governor continues to focus on the fact that Delaware must now compete in a global, technology-driven economy and has shown a willingness to devote energy and resources to education, research, and workforce development. The TechHire program is being expanded beyond the ZipCode Wilmington project to DelTech, where software development training will be available to those who need to work part time while they study. The Pathways to Prosperity initiative, which partners businesses with schools and colleges to provide career certifications, now has 10 pathways ranging from manufacturing, to IT, to healthcare, to food production.

[Join us for our March 15 Dinner Meeting to learn more from Governor Markell on his priorities for the current legislative session.](#)

The legislature is now out of session until March 8th, while the Joint Finance Committee (JFC) meets to hold hearings on the Governor's Budget.

### Committee of 100 Update

At the January 19 Dinner Meeting of The Committee of 100, Tony Allen and Dan Rich of the Wilmington Education Improvement Commission (WEIC) laid out the case for consolidating Wilmington's 11,000 school kids under fewer districts and providing those districts with greater resources to fund the extra services children in poverty need to succeed. In his State of the State speech, Governor Markell lent strong support to WEIC's efforts saying, "...the time has

come to take bold action on behalf of the children of Wilmington.” The Governor included \$6 Million in his FY 2017 Budget proposal funding to support the redistricting effort and additional student support. On February 18, the State Board of Education signed off on the WEIC plan, however, the approval came with two conditions, one of which could lead school districts to withdraw their support.

At the February Board meeting, our directors approved a recommendation by the Education & Scholarship Committee to offer members the option to “round-up” event fees to contribute to The Committee of 100 Scholarship Fund. While the individual amounts are modest (\$4 - \$5), with full participation, we have the potential to double the amount of scholarship monies available each year. Please check off the box on your dinner and reception registration forms to help support deserving students. Thank you for your generosity!

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Paul H. Morrill, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

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