

University of Maryland, Baltimore Fiscal Year 2025 Capital Budget Testimony

**House Appropriations Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
March 11th, 2024, 3:00PM
House Office Building, Room 120**

**Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Capital Budget Subcommittee
March 12th, 2022, 1:30PM
West Miller Senate Building, Room 3**

Good afternoon, Chairpersons, and members of the subcommittee. I thank you for your time today. I am grateful to the Governor and the Maryland General Assembly for their continued support of the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) and its mission to improve the human condition and serve the public good of Maryland. I would also like to thank Sara Baker, our analyst at the Department of Legislative Services, for her thoughtful analysis of our requests.

UMB concurs with most of the Department of Legislative Services' recommendations. We are specifically proud of our efforts to date on our largest project, the new School of Social Work building, as it will not only provide the highest quality space to support social work education and service but will additionally accelerate the revitalization of the north side of our campus.

We are also appreciative of the efforts made to accommodate the unusual challenges we have faced in the completion of our Central Electric Substation and Electrical Infrastructure project.

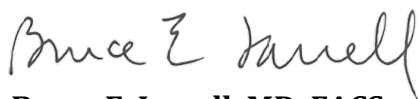
Regarding the Institute for Health Computing (IHC) project, on behalf of the partners I reluctantly accept the DLS recommendation to delete the FY '24 grant funds due to the status of our planning efforts. However, I respectfully request the committee reject the DLS recommendation of deleting the fiscal year 2025 grant funds for the planning of the IHC.

The IHC partner institutions, including the University of Maryland, College Park, the University of Maryland Medical System, and Montgomery County, have spent an enormous amount of time and effort this past year to stand up operations, including launching a comprehensive and collaborative property search effort that considered specific geographical parameters, space needs, and unique computational requirements. We identified an optimal property at 6116 Executive Boulevard, within 0.5 miles of the North Bethesda Metro station and the Pike and Rose shopping district.

The intersection of health care, computing, and artificial intelligence will only grow in the future, and as such, a leased space should only be considered a temporary location. We continue to believe the appropriate long-term solution is to move the IHC into a State-funded facility within North Bethesda. This will allow our joint researchers and data scientists to foster on-site relationships with federal agencies (NIH, FDA, NCI), small businesses, and other stakeholders and boost the IHC's and the State of Maryland's prominence within the biotech industry.

Now that the IHC has a temporary home to continue its operations, UMB, along with its partners, have shifted to completing the necessary planning for a new State-supported facility.

Thank you for your time today.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Bruce E. Jarrell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bruce" and last name "Jarrell" clearly legible.

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS

President

University of Maryland, Baltimore