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Institute Creates Policy Center for Business and Economy

ROCKVILLE, MD (March 7, 2018) — The Maryland Public Policy Institute is pleased to announce the creation of a new policy center to provide nonpartisan analysis of Maryland's business and economic climate. The Center for Business & Economic Competitiveness (CBEC) will focus on educating citizens and government decision-makers about Maryland's business climate health and the policy ideas that create greater economic freedom and opportunity in Maryland.

The centerpiece of CBEC will be the Maryland Business Climate Survey. Conducted quarterly by top faculty at the University of Baltimore's Jacob France Institute, the survey will capture the sentiment of more than 250 business leaders in Maryland to see the direction of the state's economy. With the first quarterly installment scheduled for release in March 2018, the survey will hold key data on the business community's overall perception of Maryland as a place to operate and do business.

"We do not care if you are a democrat or a republican, nor do we care whether you run a large corporation or a bootstrapping startup," said Christopher B. Summers, president and chief executive officer of the Institute. "If you took the risk to start a business, CBEC will research and promote the ideas that help businesses like yours. We serve the public policy interests of Maryland's entrepreneurs – the men and women who take risks, bring ideas to market and create jobs and opportunity in every corner of Maryland."

CBEC, which will operate as part of the Institute, will also examine state and local tax policies and pension reform, both of which impact the health of Maryland's economy and business community. The Institute's pension reform work has in recent years garnered national and international attention for its examination of exorbitant fees paid by state pension systems to investment managers.

About the Maryland Public Policy Institute: Founded in 2001, the Maryland Public Policy Institute is a nonpartisan public policy research and education organization that focuses on state policy issues. The Institute's mission is to formulate and promote public policies at all levels of government based on principles of free enterprise, limited government, and civil society. Learn more at mdpolicy.org.

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