



# DEDO Digest

May 16, 2017



## Governor Carney and Legislators Announce Bill to Spur Investment in Innovative, Delaware-Based Small Businesses

Governor John Carney and legislators in the Delaware House of Representatives on Friday announced new legislation - the Angel Investor Job Creation and Innovation Act - that would establish a refundable tax credit for qualified investors in innovative, Delaware-based small businesses, to spur job creation and innovation.



The bipartisan legislation, House Bill 170, was filed on Wednesday and is sponsored by Representative Michael Ramone. Additional House sponsors include Representative Bryon Short, Representative Melanie George Smith, and Representative Dave Wilson. Senate sponsors include Senate President Pro Tem David McBride and Senator Cathy Cloutier.

For the full press release from Governor John Carney click [here](#).

## New Incentive Allows Tax Abatements for Properties in Laurel DDD

**The promise.**  
**The need.**  
**The plan.**  
**The perks.**

Please view our interactive [story map](#).

Our website, [Reimagine Laurel](#), includes information and public engagement features about redevelopment efforts, the comprehensive plan and the Downtown Development District.

**Downtown Development District Plan**  
Town of Laurel

As a result of the approval of HB 32, the Charter of the Town of Laurel has been amended to allow for tax abatements for a five-year period on all

### Did you know?

Delaware was named an **"Innovation Champion"** in Consumer Technology Association's (CTA)<sup>TM</sup> [2017 Innovation Scorecard](#) thanks to our strong job and business growth, business-friendly tax policies and other factors.

### By the numbers

Delaware ranked **#4** on **Gallup's Job Creation Index** released earlier this year. Nevada, Delaware and Michigan were among the poorest performing states on this metric from 2008 through 2011 and now rank among the best! Check out the [Job Creation Index here](#).

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improvements at or above \$15,000 on all zoned properties located within the Downtown Development District (DDD), and established the condition that all town taxes, fees, etc., are current in order to qualify for such abatement.

The change became effective upon the Governor's signature on March 28th. Although there is not a sunset provision currently, the Town Council will have to approve each abatement by a 2/3 vote.

For more information on [HB 32](#) please follow the link. To learn more about the DDD program and how to apply, please visit Delaware State Housing Authority's [DDD webpage](#).

## Don't Miss Small Business Day at Legislative Hall on May 18th

DEDO will be joined by several of our business partners, including **Petite Sweets, Fordham & Dominion Brewing, Co., Mama's In The Kitchen, Tail**



**Bangers** and others, to support the Delaware State Chamber's Small Business Alliance 3rd Annual Small Business Day at Legislative Hall in Dover on May 18th. This event offers attendees excellent opportunities to learn more about how to get involved and important legislation that can impact businesses.

Please stop by and visit us! For more information about Small Business Day, or to register, please visit <http://bit.ly/2oYy6K6>.

## Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester Visits entreDonovan



Whether it is helping to start a new business in Delaware, or help them expand, DEDO works directly with entrepreneurs to connect them to the tools, resources, organizations and community leaders they need to be successful.

Last week **U.S. Congresswoman Lisa Blunt Rochester** stopped in to visit with small business owner of [entreDonovan](#), Linda Farquhar, and her staff. Located at 222 Delaware Avenue in Wilmington, entreDonovan offers custom clothing for professional woman utilizing innovative 3D body

scanner technology. The Congresswoman was able to tour the facility and listen to the challenges and concerns facing small businesses, both here in Delaware and across the nation.



## Visit DEDO at SBDC's STEM Startup Bootcamp May 23-24



Stop by and visit DEDO's table on May 24 at the upcoming SBDC **STEM Startup Bootcamp** at the Westin in Wilmington. This two-day workshop (May 23-24) is for anyone considering starting a science-based company, has launched a science/R&D-based enterprise in the past 12-18 months, or displaced/retired corporate executives considering entrepreneurship. For more information, please visit SBDC's [STEM Startup Bootcamp webpage](#).

## About the Delaware Economic Development Office

The Delaware Economic Development Office is an executive state agency responsible for attracting new investors and businesses to the state, promoting the expansion of existing industry, assisting small and minority-owned businesses, promoting and developing tourism and creating new and improved employment opportunities for all citizens of the State. Visit [dedo.delaware.gov](http://dedo.delaware.gov).

### Delaware Economic Development Office

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