

Chapter 336

(House Bill 224)

AN ACT concerning

Department of Information Technology – Study of a Common Information Technology Platform for Health Occupations Boards

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Information Technology to conduct a certain review of certain information technology platforms used by certain health occupations boards and make certain recommendations on the feasibility and cost of developing a certain common information technology platform; requiring the Department to report certain findings and recommendations to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; and generally relating to a common information technology platform for health occupations boards.

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(a) The Department of Information Technology, in consultation with the health occupations boards authorized to issue a license or certificate under the Health Occupations Article, shall:

(1) review the information technology platforms used by each board, including the administrative functions used by each board and the cost of operating the platforms; and

(2) make recommendations on the feasibility and cost of developing a common information technology platform for use by each board that standardizes the websites and administrative functions of the boards and makes available accurate licensing information on health care providers for the purposes of facilitating network adequacy, including:

(i) adopting a standardized website appearance and functionality for all boards;

(ii) offering each board the ability to send automated notices to persons who request to receive notices from the board;

(iii) the ability to translate the website of the board into any language spoken by any limited English proficient population that constitutes at least 3% of the overall population within the State as measured by the U.S. Census;

(iv) offering a standardized method of presenting information to regulated health care providers and the public on:

1. licensing or certification;
2. meeting scheduling and agendas;
3. board membership and staff;
4. public notices; and
5. complaint processing; and

(v) if possible, using existing platforms employed by the boards, to the extent that the platform is consistent with the statewide information technology master plan, in developing the common platform.

(b) On or before December 1, 2021, the Department of Information Technology shall report its findings and recommendations to the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

Approved by the Governor, May 18, 2021.