FAVORABLE

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE
EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL 107
State Government - State and Local Government Employees and Contractors - Cybersecurity Training

Tasha Cornish on behalf of the
Cybersecurity Association of Maryland, Inc.

POSITION: FAVORABLE

March 2, 2022

Chairman Pinksy, Vice Chairwoman Kagan, and Members of this Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 107.

Human error is a leading entry point for cybersecurity vulnerabilities, but a well-trained and cyber aware workforce can also be our most powerful tool. By implementing evidence-based cybersecurity awareness programs across government entities, employees can recognize security threats and know how to properly respond and escalate issues. When awareness training is offered on an ongoing basis, it builds a security aware culture and employees understand their role in keeping our State and Local systems secure. By centralizing an approval process for the cybersecurity awareness training within the Maryland Cybersecurity Coordinating Council, this Bill establishes a foundation for quality control and accountability, while also allowing space for some local customization when needed.

This is a critical step in reducing cybersecurity incidents and protecting our systems and data. Our organization urges a favorable report. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.