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The Honorable Delores G. Kelley and the Honorable Susan C. Lee
Senate Finance Committee Members
3 East, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 643 - Commercial Law - Maryland Personal Information Protection Act – Revisions –
FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS

Dear Chair Kelley, Senator Lee and the Members of the Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of my client, T. Rowe Price Group, Inc. T. Rowe Price is a global financial services company headquartered in Baltimore, Maryland, with an additional campus in Owings Mills, Maryland, and other offices in the United States and abroad. T. Rowe Price is a familiar name to Finance Committee members as one of the largest mutual fund complexes in the industry. T. Rowe also serves an important role as a service provider to other parties. For example, the company often provides record keeping services for employers who may sponsor a 401(k) plan, and it also provides administrative services for the Maryland 529 Plan.

T. Rowe Price is keenly aware of the importance of maintaining the security of the personal information that is the subject of Senate Bill 643 and its crossfile, House Bill 962. The amendment that is offered for Committee's consideration, and attached to this letter, provides a method for accelerating the notices required under the bill.

On page 4 of the bill, beginning at line 19, a requirement to notify an individual that a security system has been breached, and that the personal information of the individual may be misused, must be given within 45 days after discovery or notification of the breach.

On the same page, beginning at line 33, there is an additional 10-day notification requirement to the owner or licensee of the personal information. Therefore, the total notification period to the necessary parties can take as long as 55 days.

The amendment offered by T. Rowe Price is technical in nature; however, it provides an important mechanism whereby notices can be sent to both the affected individual and the owner or licensee of the personal information at the same time. For a record keeper or similar service provider such as T. Rowe Price, this is a more efficient method of delivering required notices and, as noted above, it will likely result in all necessary notices being delivered prior to the time limits set forth in the bill.

Therefore, we respectfully recommend a favorable report on Senate Bill 643, together with the attached amendment.

Very truly yours,



Bryson F. Popham

By:

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 643
(First Reading File Copy)

Amendment No. 1:

On page 4, in line 35, after “than” insert **(I)**, and in line 36, after “system” add:

“OR (II) THE TIME THAT THE BUSINESS NOTIFIES THE INDIVIDUAL ON BEHALF OF THE BUSINESS THAT OWNS OR LICENSES THE PERSONAL INFORMATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.”

Rationale:

This additional language will permit the simultaneous notification of an affected individual and the owner or licensee of personal information, thus enhancing the timeliness of notices required under the bill.