

**SB 955 Final Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Charles E. Sydnor III

Position: FAV

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**THE SENATE OF MARYLAND**  
**ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401**

**Testimony for Senate Bill 955**  
**State Government– Technology Advisory Commission–Established**  
**February 22, 2024**

Good afternoon Chair Feldman, and members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee,

Maryland is home to artificial intelligence leaders across various fields of higher education, industry, and government. Earlier this year, on January 8<sup>th</sup>, Governor Moore executed an Executive Order 01.01.2024.02 which noted that “[a]rtificial intelligence is transforming society and work in myriad ways, and the pace of that change will continue to accelerate - unlocking new opportunities and risks for Maryland's residents, workers, and economy.” He continued, “To meet the moment, the State must begin its work to ensure the use of AI in Maryland state government is responsible, ethical, beneficial, and trustworthy.” The Governor concluded that “Leaders across Maryland government share a common interest in establishing effective AI governance, and are committed to working together to develop the legal and policy framework for its responsible use in the State.”<sup>1</sup>

I believe that Senate Bill 955 (“SB 955”) one piece of the puzzle for the legislature to provide a portion of this “legal and policy framework” the Governor describes in his Executive Order. I state this because I know our colleague, Senator Hester is working on additional legislation to flesh these issues out as well. What does SB 955 propose to do?

SB 955 does a few things. First, it introduces definitions to “Algorithmic Decision System,” “Commission,” and “Responsible Artificial Intelligence.” SB 955 also brings together those much more expert than us and creates a Technology Advisory Commission (“the Commission”) consisting of representatives from various colleges and universities across the State, as well as designees from the Maryland Technology Council, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, the Chesapeake Regional Information System for our Patients, the Secretary of Information, the

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<sup>1</sup> Executive Order 01.01.2024.02 “Catalyzing the Responsible and Productive Use of Artificial Intelligence in Maryland State Government”.

Maryland Total Human Services Integrated Network Platform, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Health, the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities, the Information Technology Advisory Counsel, the Division of Parole and Probation, the Office of Investigation, Intelligence, and Fugitive Apprehension, the State Advisory Board for Juvenile Services, the Attorney General, and the Chief Attorney of the Legal Aid Bureau.

Under this legislation, the Commission is responsible: (1) advising the Governor's Executive Counsel's Intelligence Subcabinet on technology and science developments, (2) making recommendations on responsible and productive uses of algorithmic decision systems in Maryland, including how systems can be implemented consistent with Maryland values, (3) reviewing and making recommendations on the Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet's algorithmic decision systems policies, (4) providing insight, evaluations, recommendations, and oversight regarding the development and application of algorithmic decision systems, machine learning, associated algorithms, and technology in the state, (5) establishing workgroups to study and make recommendations regarding various topics involving artificial intelligence, algorithmic decision systems, machine learning, and other related topics, and (6) being available to provide guidance to any unit of the State Government, county Boards of Education, the Maryland Judiciary, or the Maryland General Assembly.

SB 955 explicitly states that nothing in the law would require a vendor to publicly disclose proprietary information or compromise their intellectual property rights. Further, SB 955 requires the Governor to include an appropriation of \$100,000 to the Commission in the annual budget. Finally, the Commission would be responsible for submitting an annual report on its activities and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly.

For the reasons stated above, I respectfully request a favorable report for SB 955.

**SB0955\_MACC\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Drew Jabin

Position: FAV

**Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**  
February 22, 2024

**SB 955 - State Government - Technology Advisory Commission - Established**

**Position: Favorable**

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The Maryland Association of Community Colleges (MACC), representing Maryland's 16 community colleges, supports **SB 955**. This bill would establish the Technology Advisory Commission, which will study and make recommendations on technology and science developments and use in Maryland.

Community colleges play a crucial role in technology education and workforce development with the State, and MACC appreciates being included as a member of the proposed Commission. Maryland's community colleges serve as accessible entry points to higher education and technical training for many individuals, including those from underserved communities, non-traditional students, and adult learners. By having a seat on the Commission, MACC can advocate for policies and initiatives that promote equitable access to technology education and opportunities for all residents of the State.

Community colleges in Maryland have a significant role to play in advancing the goals of this Commission. Keeping a seat for Community Colleges on the Commission ensures that the Commission benefits from their diverse perspectives, expertise, and commitment to advancing technology education and workforce development in Maryland. Accordingly, MACC urges the Committee to issue a **FAVORABLE** vote on **SB 955**.

Please contact Brad Phillips ([bphillips@mdacc.org](mailto:bphillips@mdacc.org)) or Drew Jabin ([djabin@mdacc.org](mailto:djabin@mdacc.org)) with questions.

**SB955\_USM\_FWA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Andy Clark

Position: FWA



**Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment**  
**Senate Bill 955**  
**State Government - Technology Advisory Commission - Established**  
**February 22, 2024**  
**Favorable with Amendment**

Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony on Senate Bill 955. The bill establishes the Technology Advisory Commission.

The University System of Maryland (USM) is comprised of twelve distinguished institutions, and three regional centers. We award eight out of every ten bachelor's degrees in the State. Each of USM's 12 institutions has a distinct and unique approach to the mission of educating students and promoting the economic, intellectual, and cultural growth of its surrounding community. These institutions are located throughout the state, from Western Maryland to the Eastern Shore, with the flagship campus in the Washington suburbs. The USM includes three Historically Black Institutions, comprehensive institutions and research universities, and the country's largest public online institution.

With Artificial Intelligence (AI) quickly becoming one of the most transformative technologies in decades, governing the responsible and ethical use of generative artificial intelligence takes a large, but balanced, community of "thought leaders" and practitioners. The USM believes an oversight commission of this import is enhanced exponentially by partnering with the expertise represented in the widest swath of Maryland's system of public higher education. Expanding the commission membership to embrace all of the USM campuses will provide crucial advice as the commission oversees the responsible, efficient and ethical use of a host of new technologies across the state.

The USM has deep expertise and research knowledge on the technical, ethical, legal, operational, and subject matter specific aspects of artificial intelligence. By expanding the Commission membership to include all of USM's institutions we can ensure that the most content knowledgeable people are able to serve on the Commission.

The USM respectfully requests an amendment to Senate Bill 955:

***Page 4; after line 3 is amended to read:***

***“(XI) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BALTIMORE, DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY;***

***(XII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF SALISBURY UNIVERSITY, DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY;***

***(XIII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, EASTERN SHORE DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY;***

***(XIV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, GLOBAL CAMPUS, DESIGNATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY;***

***(XV) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF MARYLAND, DESIGNATED BY THE CHANCELLOR;”***

Thank you for allowing the USM to share our position on Senate Bill 955 and respectfully request the above amendment.





# **SB955\_TechAdvisoryCommission\_SWA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Pegeen Townsend

Position: FWA



Maryland  
Hospital Association

**Senate Bill 955 - Maryland Artificial Intelligence Advisory and Oversight Commission**

**Position: *Support with Amendments***

February 22, 2024

Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

**MHA Position**

On behalf of the Maryland Hospital Association's (MHA) member hospitals and health systems, we appreciate the opportunity to support and propose amendments to Senate Bill 1087.

As technology rapidly advances beyond the scope of our existing regulatory and statutory framework, any efforts to govern innovations like artificial intelligence (AI) and/or other digital algorithmic processes must balance flexibility, innovation, and accountability. Health care technology for clinical decision-making, service delivery, and patient records has advanced significantly in the last decade alone. All our member hospitals use a form of electronic medical record, health information exchange network, and/or claims clearinghouse to perform day-to-day operations. Some of the vendors behind these applications are starting to integrate AI into their offerings, and others are expected to follow suit.

Hospitals and health care providers must be included from the beginning in any discussions on governing AI to ensure we can provide a digitally optimized health care experience. We recognize that although AI and other algorithmic innovations offer significant potential to boost hospital efficiency and outcomes, it also has the potential to exacerbate biases and crystallize outdated standards. We welcome the opportunity to work with industry experts through this Committee to stay informed and engaged on emerging issues in AI and AI regulation. We offer the following amendment to SB 1087:

On page 4, in line 13, strike "AND"; and in line 17, after "INSTITUTE" insert:

"(XVII) ONE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, DESIGNATED BY THE MARYLAND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION;"

For these reasons, we request a *favorable* report on SB 1087 and MHA's proposed amendment.

For more information, please contact:

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