

FAVORABLE

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE
GOVERNMENT AND OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL 982
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – MODERNIZATION OF
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

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POSITION: FAVORABLE

March 28, 2024

Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and Members of this Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 982.

The Cybersecurity Association of Maryland, Inc. (“CAMI”) supports SB 982. CAMI is a statewide, 501(c)(6) nonprofit organization established in 2015, created to drive the growth of Maryland's cybersecurity industry. Our membership includes over 600 firms ranging in size from Fortune 500 companies to solo owner operators and represents nearly 100,000 Maryland employees.

SB 982 aims to modernize Maryland's state government IT infrastructure through key strategies:

- Creates a non-lapsing Information Technology Investment Fund to finance legacy system assessments and replacements. Investing in modernization is fundamental to maintaining secure IT systems; a non-lapsing fund will ensure that state agencies have access to the funds they need for these imperative upgrades.
- Expands the duties of the Modernize Maryland Oversight Commission to focus on best practices for modernization and providing recommendations to government units and the legislature.
- Exempts IT modernization projects from approval by the Board of Public Works, streamlining the process and reducing friction in the modernization process.
- Requires the Secretary of Information Technology to develop a State Modernization Plan and a strategy for centralizing IT management to reduce costs and unnecessary redundancies.

This bill can effect lasting change, including: improved government efficiency; public-private collaboration opportunities; and transparency and accountability. For these reasons, CAMI supports SB 982 and requests a favorable report from the committee.