

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2025 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 294 (Senator Feldman)
Education, Energy, and the Environment

Maryland Cybersecurity Council - Membership - Alterations

This bill requires the Governor, instead of the Attorney General, to (1) appoint various members of the Maryland Cybersecurity Council (MCC) and (2) invite, as appropriate, representatives from specified federal agencies to serve on the council. Additionally, instead of the Attorney General or the Attorney General’s designee serving as the chair of MCC, beginning October 1, 2025, and every two years thereafter, the council must elect a chair from among the members of the council.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: The bill’s requirements can be handled using existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law: MCC must work with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), as well as other federal agencies, private-sector businesses, and private cybersecurity experts to address State cybersecurity issues. The council’s responsibilities include (1) assisting specified infrastructure entities in complying with federal cybersecurity guidance; (2) examining inconsistencies between State and federal cybersecurity laws; (3) assisting private-sector cybersecurity businesses in adopting, adapting, and implementing the NIST cybersecurity framework of standards and practices; and (4) recommending legislative changes to address cybersecurity issues.

MCC is chaired by the Attorney General's designee, is staffed by the University of Maryland Global Campus, and consists of various representatives from State agencies, members of the General Assembly, and members appointed by the Attorney General. Additionally, the Attorney General must invite, as appropriate, representatives from specified federal agencies to serve on the council.

Additional Information

Recent Prior Introductions: Similar legislation has not been introduced withing the last three years.

Designated Cross File: HB 376 (Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee) - Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Department of Information Technology; Governor's Office; Maryland Department of Emergency Management; Office of the Attorney General; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 23, 2025
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