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**Sponsor Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 71  
MD Funding Accountability and Transparency Act - Nonbudgeted State  
Agencies  
Before the Appropriations Committee**

**January 28, 2020**

House Bill 71 would result in better disclosure of vendor spending by state agencies.

In 2008, the General Assembly enacted the Maryland Funding Accountability and Transparency Act. That law requires the Department of Budget and Management to publish a public web page containing a searchable database of spending by state agencies for amounts of at least \$25,000.

The database has served its purpose for over 10 years, but House Bill 71 makes 2 needed improvements:

- 1) Missing agencies** - HB71 would add spending from "non-budgeted" agencies such as MDTA (Maryland Transportation Authority) that are currently not included.
- 2) Delayed data** - DBM/DOIT's current practice is to update the database by January 1st of each year with data from the previous fiscal year. This means that the data is at least 6 months old and can be up to 30 months old. HB71 would require monthly updates so that the data would be no more than 45 days old.

I ask for your favorable report.