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Joint Audit Committee Joint Committee on Federal Relations



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND Annapolis, Maryland 21401

SB588: State Government - Protection of Personally Identifiable Information -University System of Maryland Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee Wednesday, February 12, 2020, 1:00 PM

Last year, HB716 sought to create a comprehensive DoIT framework for the Executive Branch and local governments to protect personally identifiable information (PII). Leaders at the University System of Maryland (USM) asked to be exempted from the package last year to create a comprehensive plan of their own.

SB588 addresses the specific needs of higher education institutions and the data they maintain. I am impressed with the effort the USM team has made to create a comprehensive, first-in-thenation regulatory framework.

SB588 would enable the University System to take important steps to strengthen safeguards on personal information. Colleges would only be able to collect information that is actually needed. USM must develop and adopt an information security and risk management program for the protection of PII. Third-party access is restricted and ensures that they are in compliance with the University's privacy governance program. The bill also creates a process for students to appeal a request for PII or to opt out of allowing their data to be shared with third parties.

USM schools must post a privacy notice on their website. In the event of a significant security breach (impacting 1,000 or more people), they must provide a notice about the breach on their website so that those affected will be able to find additional information. We have an amendment that will require that the breach notice remain on the website for one year, instead of the five years that the current bill language mandates.

I've enjoyed working with USM and its talented IT professionals on this plan. I urge a favorable report on SB588.