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The Senate of Maryland
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The Honorable Paul G. Pinsky
Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee

RE: Senate Bill 924: Procurement – Information Technology – Cloud-Based Virtual Desktop Infrastructure

Dear Chairman and Members of the Committee:

Senate Bill 924 requires the Department of Information Technology (DoIT) to initiate a request for proposals (RFP) for the implementation of an intergovernmental cloud-based virtual desktop infrastructure. There is one amendment to clarify the inclusion of Device as a Service (DaaS) in the RFP.

Technology continues to transform government. Virtual Desktop Infrastructure (VDI) is a technology that delivers virtual desktop systems or applications to users remotely either as an on premise or cloud resource. DaaS is a VDI hosted in the cloud and paid for as a subscription service. Essentially, DaaS assumes the responsibility for managing the desktop infrastructure resulting in tremendous up front cost savings, greater agility and elasticity, as well as, enhanced technical assistance.

I request the committee's favorable consideration of Senate Bill 924 with amendment.