



Maryland Municipal League

The Association of Maryland's Cities and Towns

TESTIMONY

March 2, 2021

Committee: Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Bill: SB 873 - Department of Information Technology - State and Local Government Employees and Contractors - Cybersecurity Training

Position: Oppose

Reason for Position:

The Maryland Municipal League opposes SB 873 which sets mandatory training for certain municipal employees and requires periodic audits of the training program compliance.

While MML recognizes the importance of mitigating risks of a cyber attack on local governments, particularly in this era of expanded telework, the training mandate for all municipal employees that interact with the government computer systems infringes on local authority as employers to govern their business. This mandate, which also applies to contractors, is overbroad and may in many instances be unnecessary in some circumstances and duplicative in others.

Secondly, the mandatory periodic audits may put a fiscal strain on some municipalities. In many instances, audits come with a significant price tag and may not be an appropriate use of funds if, for instance, a municipality has a few employees.

For these reasons we therefore respectfully request that the committee provide an unfavorable report on SB 873.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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