

Date: February 22, 2022

Bill: House Bill 419 State Government - Information Technology - Cybersecurity

Position: Support

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair
Health and Government Operations Committee
House Office Building, Room 241
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Pendergrass:

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) supports House Bill 419 State Government - Information Technology - Cybersecurity. The purpose of this bill is to codify Governor Hogan's Executive Order 01.01.2019.07, which creates the position of State Chief Information Security Officer, the Office of Security Management and the Maryland Cybersecurity Coordinating Council (MCCC). These three entities are the driving force behind the Maryland Cyber Defense Initiative, which will strengthen the State's cybersecurity posture while also solidifying its ability to prevent when possible and then manage and minimize the consequences of a cybersecurity incident.

The State Chief Information Security Officer leads the Office of Security Management. The office, located within the Department of Information Technology, is responsible for the direction, coordination, and implementation of the overall cybersecurity strategy and policy for all State agencies in the Executive Branch.

The MCCC provides advice and recommendations regarding the implementation of cybersecurity initiatives and the building and sustaining of the capabilities necessary for the State to identify, protect, detect, respond, and recover from cybersecurity-related incidents. The MCCC is comprised of State officials representing numerous agencies and departments throughout the State. Having high ranking officials from numerous state agencies is a huge asset in working together to coordinate cybersecurity strategy throughout the whole executive branch.

The bill also requires the Legislative and Judicial branches to certify that they are in compliance with certain minimum security standards in reference to their connection to networkMaryland. This will help to ensure that they are not introducing, or exposing other entities to unneeded risk on the network.

In addition, the bill requires all executive branch agencies and units to submit a report to the Governor that contains:

1. an inventory of all information systems and applications used or maintained by the

- agency or unit;
2. a full data inventory of the agency or unit;
 3. a list of all cloud or statistical analysis system solutions used by the agency or unit; and
 4. a list of all permanent and transient vendor interconnections that are in place.

This report will allow the State Chief Information Security Officer and the Office of Security Management to fully understand what data and systems are in each agency in the executive branch. An asset inventory is a logical beginning step for the Office of Security Management to minimize the agencies' cyber and privacy risks and serves as the foundation for creating a coordinated cybersecurity strategy across all agencies.

The Department of Information Technology does not expect there to be a financial impact related to this bill. The Department has already received and allocated funds for this legislation, as its requirements were implemented in 2019 pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order.

For these reasons, the Maryland Department of Information Technology respectfully requests a favorable report on House Bill 419.

Best,

Michael G. Leahy
Secretary
Department of Information Technology