

**MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE**  
**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Hon. Joseph M. Getty  
Chief Judge

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** House Health and Government Operations  
**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523  
**RE:** House Bill 1346  
State Government – Cybersecurity – Coordination and Governance  
**DATE:** February 16, 2022  
(2/22)  
**POSITION:** Oppose

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The Maryland Judiciary opposes House Bill 1346. This bill requires the three branches of government, including the Judiciary, to certify annually to DoIT that it is in compliance with the established minimum standards if it uses the network established by DoIT.

This bill raises separation of power concerns as it applies to the Judiciary as it impedes the Judiciary's independence. Article IV, §18(b)(1) identifies the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals as the administrative head of the Maryland Judiciary. The power to administer the Judiciary is not an implied or inherent power but is an express constitutional power of the Chief Judge. This constitutional authority includes managing the Judiciary's personnel and IT system.

Additionally, Judicial Information Systems currently works with the Department of Information Technology on cybersecurity issues and topics as appropriate.

cc. Hon. Pat Young  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor