

FAVORABLE

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE
WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 769

STUDENT DATA PRIVACY - PROTECTIONS, DIGITAL TOOLS, AND STUDENT DATA PRIVACY COUNCIL

TASHA CORNISH ON BEHALF OF THE
CYBERSECURITY ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.

POSITION: FAVORABLE

FEBRUARY 22, 2022

Chairwoman Atterbeary, Vice Chairman Washington, and Members of this Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 769.

This bill moves Maryland forward in meaningful ways to have a strong cybersecurity posture by updating current protections for certain student data to reflect current data collection practices and best practices for data protection. A good cybersecurity governance structure is important to cyber resilience, and we applaud the Bill authors in requiring county board of education members to provide a list of their technical stack to the State Department of Education on or before July 1 each year. You cannot protect what you don't know exists, and this is a critical piece for accountability and data protection. Lastly, we were excited to read about the Student Data Privacy Council that would be created through this Bill to create another layer of accountability and collaboration. Thank you for including a member of the private sector who will provide necessary expertise in creating a strong data protection model.

We must make the right decisions to protect the vast amount of data created by our K-12 education. Our organization urges a favorable report. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.