



Wes Moore | Governor
Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor
Katie Savage | Secretary

TO: Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
FROM: Department of Information Technology
RE: Senate Bill 692 - Cybersecurity - Workgroup to Study Data Security - Establishment
DATE: February 28, 2024
POSITION: Information

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman, Chair
Senate Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee
2 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Feldman,

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) has some concerns with Senate Bill 692 - Cybersecurity - Workgroup to Study Data Security - Establishment. The bill establishes the Workgroup to Study Data Security staffed by the Office of the Governor to examine data protection standards in other states and identify existing standards for State agencies. DoIT believes that the goals of the workgroup are already being done by the Maryland Cybersecurity Coordinating Council and the Maryland Cybersecurity Council as well as the Office Of Security Management in coordination with the Chief Privacy Officer (CPO) and Chief Data Officer (CDO) currently. The SCISO, CPO and CDO are already identifying existing data security standards that would best be assimilated by State agencies, and developing recommendations on and assessing fiscal impacts of data security practices that are listed in the bill.

This working group would also be duplicative because the Office of Security Management under DoIT in coordination with the Maryland Cybersecurity Coordinating Council develops and maintains information technology (IT) security policies, standards, and guidance documents for the Executive Branch which are consistent with best practices.

DoIT also believes that studying standards and best practices would be done in a more efficient and effective manner by a University or a much smaller workgroup that does not have over 20 individuals on it. We believe that data security practices range from organization to organization and would much better be handled at each level of Government rather than trying to be studied as one overarching practice.

Best,



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Katie Olson Savage
Secretary
Department of Information Technology