



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

TO: House Appropriations Committee
FROM: Department of Information Technology
RE: Senate Bill 597 - Higher Education - Maryland Artificial Intelligence Partnership
DATE: March 31, 2026
POSITION: Support with Amendments

The Honorable Ben Barnes, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
120 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairman Barnes,

The Maryland Department of Information Technology (DoIT) respectfully submits this letter in support with amendments for Senate Bill 597 - Higher Education - Maryland Artificial Intelligence Partnership.

DoIT supports the State's continued exploration of artificial intelligence and values collaboration with Maryland's higher education institutions. The Department appreciates the bill's goal of strengthening Maryland's AI ecosystem and fostering innovation through partnerships with institutions of higher education. With a targeted amendment to ensure coordination with existing State efforts, DoIT believes the bill can better support responsible, efficient, and strategic AI adoption across State agencies.

To strengthen coordination between the proposed Lab and existing State initiatives, DoIT recommends the following amendment:

THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY **SHALL** PROVIDE POLICY GUIDANCE, AND **MAY** SUPPORT THE INTEGRATION OF THE WORK OF THE LAB INTO STATE AGENCIES, TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE.

This amendment would help ensure that the work of the Lab is aligned with statewide policy, existing governance structures, and the practical needs of State agencies, while preserving flexibility for DoIT to provide implementation support where appropriate.

With this amendment, DoIT believes SB 597 could serve as a constructive framework for advancing collaboration between State government and Maryland's higher education institutions while reinforcing coordination with existing State AI efforts.



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Thank you for your consideration.

Best,

Katie Savage
Secretary
Department of Information Technology