

I am writing to respectfully oppose Maryland House Bill 1369.

HB1369 would establish a new **Audit and Finance Compliance Unit** within the Department of Budget and Management, creating a new layer of state bureaucracy without clearly defined outcomes or demonstrated need. At a time when Maryland faces significant fiscal pressures, it is inappropriate to authorize the creation of another department entity whose costs, staffing needs, and operational impact have not been justified to taxpayers or tied to measurable improvements in state performance.

Effective government should prioritize efficient use of limited resources, not expand administrative structures with undefined results. I urge you to oppose HB1369 and instead focus on improving accountability through existing, proven mechanisms rather than layering on new departments that risk waste and inefficiency.

Thank you for your time and consideration.