



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

**TO:** Senate Finance Committee  
**FROM:** Department of Information Technology  
**RE:** House Bill 264 - Maryland Data Privacy and Protection Act of 2026  
**DATE:** April 2, 2026  
**POSITION:** Support

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The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Beidle,

I am writing in strong support of House Bill 264 - Maryland Data Privacy and Protection Act of 2026, the Department of Information Technology's departmental bill before the Senate Finance Committee.

Over the past decade, the amount of personal information collected by Maryland State Agencies has increased dramatically. Existing state law fails to address modern data practices, emerging technologies, and the role of third-party vendors. HB 264 is an essential update to current state law that addresses these new risks

This legislation limits the collection of personal records to only what is necessary. The data must be accurate, recent, and most importantly, securely deleted or de-identified once it is no longer needed. It also broadens the definition of "personal information" by incorporating "sensitive data," which includes identifiers related to protected classes, such as gender identification, citizenship, and immigration status, to better protect said information. This legislation will also impose new, stringent security and privacy requirements on third-party contractors that handle personal information.

By modernizing Maryland's information security and promoting privacy best practices, House Bill 264 will give citizens greater confidence from the state's transparency in its processing of and actions to secure their personal information

For these reasons, I respectfully request the Committee's support of House Bill 264. Thank you for your consideration.



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Best,

Katie Savage  
Secretary  
Department of Information Technology