



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

TO: Senate Finance Committee
FROM: Department of Information Technology
RE: Senate Bill 757 - Consumer Protection - Disclosure of Tariffs and Local Sourcing
DATE: March 5, 2026
POSITION: Letter of Information

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

Dear Chairwoman Beidle,

The Department of Information Technology (DoIT) respectfully submits this letter of information on Senate Bill 757. This bill would prohibit a person from failing to disclose when the price of a consumer good includes a tariff and would require the Department of Commerce to develop and maintain a searchable online database to connect businesses in the State with local sources for supplies and inventory. The bill also requires Commerce to submit an annual report on the use and effectiveness of the database.

The goals of SB 757, promoting price transparency and strengthening local supply chains, are important and align with broader efforts to support Maryland businesses and consumers. The proposed searchable database could serve as a valuable economic development tool by helping businesses identify local suppliers and reduce reliance on out-of-state or international sources.

To maximize the effectiveness, transparency, and long-term value of the proposed database, we respectfully recommend that the Department of Commerce connect the database to Maryland's Open Data Portal (data.maryland.gov). Leveraging the State's existing open data infrastructure would ensure that the information is published in standardized, machine-readable formats and is accessible to businesses, policymakers, researchers, and the public.

Connecting the database to the Open Data Portal would provide several benefits. It would increase transparency and public visibility, allow other State agencies and local governments to integrate the data into planning and economic development efforts, reduce duplication of technical infrastructure, and promote innovation by enabling third parties to build tools or analytics using the dataset. Additionally, posting the required annual "use and effectiveness" report on the Open Data Portal alongside the dataset would enhance accountability and legislative oversight.



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For these reasons, the Maryland Department of Information Technology respectfully urges a favorable report on Senate Bill 757.

Best,

Katie Savage
Secretary
Department of Information Technology