

WES MOORE
Governor

ARUNA MILLER
Lieutenant Governor



YAAKOV "JAKE" WEISSMANN
Secretary

MARC L. NICOLE
Deputy Secretary

TITLE: SB858 Department of Budget and Management - Audit and Finance Compliance Unit - Establishment

DATE: March 31st 2026

COMMITTEE: Government Labor and Elections

EXPLANATION: The Department of Budget and Management supports Senate Bill 858 with the amendments adopted by the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee.

SB 858 establishes the Audit and Finance Compliance Unit within DBM to monitor Executive Departmental Units' efforts to correct audit findings reported by the Office of Legislative Audits. The Senate amendments strengthen the bill in several meaningful ways: replacing the public-facing dashboard requirement with an annual report to the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee; refining the Unit's role to emphasize guidance, coordination, and technical assistance rather than direct intervention; and adding a new provision that authorizes a defined set of legislative and executive officials, including the Unit to view unredacted cybersecurity audit findings in audit reports that are otherwise redacted before public release.

DBM believes that these amendments improve the bill's workability and better reflect how the Unit can add value within the existing audit oversight structure. The Department looks forward to implementing this authority and working with the General Assembly and audited agencies to strengthen audit compliance across state government.

DBM supports the favorable consideration of SB858 with the amendments.

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