



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

**TO:** House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee  
**FROM:** Department of Information Technology  
**RE:** House Bill 264 - Maryland Data Privacy and Protection Act of 2026  
**DATE:** February 10, 2026  
**POSITION:** Support

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The Honorable Melissa Wells, Chair  
House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee  
145 Lowe House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chairwoman Wells,

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 House Government, Labor, and Elections 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 aligning with national best practices, House Bill 264 will give citizens greater confidence in how the state handles their information and will reduce the impact of data breaches and misuse.



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

Best,

Katie Savage  
Secretary  
Department of Information Technology