

Department of Legislative Services  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2022 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE  
 First Reader

House Bill 1359 (Delegates Hill and Prettyman)  
 Appropriations

State Government - Technology and Science Advisory Commission - Established

This bill establishes the Technology and Science Advisory Commission (TSAC) as well as the membership and responsibilities of the commission. TSAC must be staffed by the Department of Information Technology (DoIT). For each fiscal year, the Governor must include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of \$100,000 to the commission. By December 31 of each year, the commission must submit a report on its activities and recommendations to the Governor and General Assembly. **The bill takes effect July 1, 2022, and terminates June 30, 2027.**

Fiscal Summary

**State Effect:** General fund expenditures increase by \$100,000 annually from FY 2024 through 2027 pursuant to the bill’s mandated appropriations; although discretionary, this analysis assumes funding for the commission is provided in FY 2023 as well. Affected State agencies can participate in the commission using existing budgeted resources. Revenues are not affected. **This bill establishes a mandated appropriation beginning in FY 2024.**

(in dollars)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Net Effect	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)	(\$100,000)

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** The bill does not affect local governmental operations or finances.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

## Analysis

### **Bill Summary:** TSAC must:

- advise State agencies on technology and science developments;
- make recommendations on the proper use of developing technology and science within the State and how developments can be implemented in the State;
- review and make recommendations on algorithmic decision system policies, practices, and regulations employed by State agencies;
- create a framework for addressing the ethics of emerging and innovative technologies and science that will avoid systemic harm and bias and prioritize equity, sustainability, accountability, and responsible stewardship of public resources;
- prohibit individuals from inhibiting the expertise of the commission members and interfering with data developed from recommendations; and
- establish workgroups to study and make recommendations on specified issues.

A member of the commission may not receive compensation as a member of the commission but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses.

### **Current Law:** DoIT and the Secretary of Information Technology are responsible for:

- developing and enforcing information technology (IT) policies, procedures, and standards;
- providing technical assistance, advice, and recommendations to any unit of State government;
- reviewing agency project plans to make information and services available to the public over the Internet;
- developing and maintaining a statewide IT master plan, as specified;
- adopting and enforcing nonvisual access standards to be used in the procurement of IT services, as specified;
- in consultation with the Attorney General, advising and overseeing a consistent cybersecurity strategy for units of State government, as specified;
- advising and consulting with the Legislative and Judicial branches of State government regarding a cybersecurity strategy; and
- in consultation with the Attorney General, developing guidance on consistent cybersecurity strategies for specified local government entities.

While DoIT oversees IT and cybersecurity for most Executive Branch agencies, some agencies, such as the Maryland Stadium Authority, the University System of Maryland,

and the Maryland Port Authority, are exempt from DoIT's oversight. The Legislative and Judicial branches are not subject to DoIT oversight.

**State Expenditures:** General fund expenditures by DoIT increase by \$100,000 annually from fiscal 2023 through 2027 (which accounts for the bill's mandated appropriation beginning in fiscal 2024 and assumes discretionary funding is provided in fiscal 2023 as well). DoIT advises that \$100,000 annually is likely sufficient for the staffing and research costs associated with the commission's activities.

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### **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Department of Information Technology; University System of Maryland; Morgan State University; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Juvenile Services; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; Maryland Department of Transportation; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader - March 14, 2022  
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