



MARYLAND TECH COUNCIL

TO: The Honorable Dereck E. Davis, Chair
Members, House Economic Matters Committee
The Honorable Ned Carey

FROM: Richard A. Tabuteau
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman

DATE: February 26, 2020

RE: **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** – House Bill 237 – *Commercial Law – Personal Information Protection Act – Revisions*

The Maryland Tech Council (MTC) is a collaborative community, actively engaged in building stronger life science and technology companies by supporting the efforts of our individual members who are saving and improving lives through innovation. We support our member companies who are driving innovation through advocacy, education, workforce development, cost savings programs, and connecting entrepreneurial minds. The valuable resources we provide to our members help them reach their full potential making Maryland a global leader in the life sciences and technology industries. On behalf of MTC, we submit this letter of **support with amendment** for House Bill 237.

House Bill 237 expands the Maryland Personal Information Protection Act (MPIPA) by covering additional types of personal information to include genetic information and nonpublic social media information. It also expands the types of businesses that are required to implement and maintain reasonable security procedures and practices to protect personal information from unauthorized use; shortens the period within which businesses must provide required notifications to consumers after a data breach; and requires additional information to be provided to the Office of the Attorney General after a breach has occurred. Violation of the bill is an unfair, abusive, or deceptive trade practice under the Maryland Consumer Protection Act.

Though MTC recognizes the importance of timely, accurate notification to consumers of data breaches there remains major concerns with some of the definitions in House Bill 237, as introduced. The proposed requirements in the bill would vastly exceed requirements imposed by other states. Additionally, some of the timeframes are unreasonably short for consistent compliance. We understand that the tech industry is working with the sponsors on amendments and are hopeful that consensus can be reached. **To that end, MTC supports the need to address the issues raised by House Bill 237 and an amendment to submit these issues for further consideration and recommendations reached by consensus of a workgroup composed of all relevant stakeholders.**

For more information call:

Richard A. Tabuteau
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Danna L. Kauffman
410-244-7000