

January 19, 2022

The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chairwoman, Health and Government Operations Committee
House Office Building Room 241
Annapolis, Maryland 21041

**IN SUPPORT OF House Bill 5: State Government - State and Local
Government Employees and Contractors - Cybersecurity Training**

Dear Chairwoman Pendergrass and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the nearly 157,000 members of ISACA worldwide and the 2,319 members of our Central Maryland Chapter, I write today urging your support of HB5. This legislation is an important step forward in promoting the advancement of the cybersecurity and information security workforce of the state of Maryland.

ISACA is a nonprofit, global membership association for information and cybersecurity professionals. ISACA provides our members with tools, knowledge, and experiences to advance their careers and enhance the security environment of their workplace.

As the leading professional association for cybersecurity and information security professionals, we see a strong and growing demand for qualified and well-trained cyber professionals in government. Government must utilize the modern approaches that have proven successful to improve skills – both knowledge and applied education. Supporting talent that can build knowledge also provides a useful retention tool.

ISACA has also worked to advocate for job-ready professionals with the skills to execute initiatives in the marketplace. The challenge for cybersecurity professionals is that their skillsets need continuous improvement to keep pace with the threat environment and massive investments from adversaries. State governments expanding capabilities for cyber professionals will help counter the investments from rivals and bad actors.

If our organization can be of additional assistance to you on cybersecurity workforce issues, please do not hesitate to have a member of your staff contact Emily Bastedo, ISACA's Director of Global Government Relations and Public Affairs, by email at ebastedo@isaca.org or phone at (224) 374-7390.



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Thank you again for your support of HB 5 and we look forward to working with you on its enactment into law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julia Kanouse".

Julia Kanouse
Chief Membership Officer