

FAVORABLE

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE
HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 1205

STATE GOVERNMENT – INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND CYBERSECURITY–RELATED
INFRASTRUCTURE (MODERNIZE MARYLAND ACT OF 2022)

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POSITION: FAVORABLE

FEBRUARY 18, 2022

Chairwoman Pendergrass, Vice Chairwoman Pena-Melnyk, and Members of this Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 1205.

This bill moves Maryland forward in meaningful ways to have a strong cybersecurity posture by capitalizing on existing knowledge and experience of Maryland State government. This bill would establish a strategy, funding mechanism, and oversight process to access, identify, and prioritize legacy systems within our state agencies for modernization. Critical systems would be upgraded no later than 2025 and all systems would be upgraded no later than 2030. Systems would be prioritized based on their technical fit (i.e., security risk, performance, external system dependency), business fit (i.e., does the system support the agency’s objectives), citizen experience (i.e., how seamless is the system for end-users), and maintenance/operational costs.

This is a critical step in reducing the incidence of ransomware and other data breaches, as outdated, unpatched and legacy systems are a leading entrypoint for cyber criminals.

Our organization urges a favorable report. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify.