

FAVORABLE

TESTIMONY PRESENTED TO THE  
HOUSE HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

HOUSE BILL 1346  
STATE GOVERNMENT - CYBERSECURITY - COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE

TASHA CORNISH  
CYBERSECURITY ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND, INC.

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 1346.

This bill moves Maryland forward in meaningful ways to have a strong cybersecurity posture by codifying current successes within the Maryland State government. By codifying the establishment of the Office of Security Management within the Department of Information Technology and the Maryland Cybersecurity Coordinating Council you will be adopting a best practice approach that will be difficult to change.

Centralizing authority and control of the procurement of all information technology for the Executive Branch of State government in DoIT would create incredible efficiencies within the entire security enterprise and certainly help reduce spending and unneeded redundancies. By exempting meetings of the Council from the Open Meetings Act, you would create an important space for threat sharing that would best prepare your security professionals to protect our systems and citizens. Lastly, requiring each unit of the Executive Branch of State government and certain local entities to report certain cybersecurity incidents is absolutely needed for building a strong security program, to better contain the threat and prevent future attacks.

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