

HOUSE BILL 268

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(PRE-FILED)

6lr0268
CF 6lr0267

By: **Chair, Government, Labor, and Elections Committee (By Request –
Departmental – Information Technology)**

Requested: September 17, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Government, Labor, and Elections

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Information Technology – Establishment of the Office of Enterprise Data and**
3 **State Chief Data Officer and Collaboration With Agency Data Officers**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing the position and responsibilities of the State Chief Data
5 Officer; establishing the Office of Enterprise Data in the Department of Information
6 Technology and the responsibilities of the Office; requiring certain units of State
7 government and authorizing certain units of State government to appoint an Agency
8 Data Officer and establishing the responsibilities of Agency Data Officers; and
9 generally relating to ensuring the efficient, secure, and ethical use of data in support
10 of State goals and initiatives.

11 BY adding to
12 Article – State Finance and Procurement
13 Section 3.5–319
14 Annotated Code of Maryland
15 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – State Finance and Procurement**

19 **3.5–319.**

20 **(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS**
21 **INDICATED.**

22 **(2) “DATA” MEANS STATISTICAL OR FACTUAL INFORMATION THAT:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (I) IS IN ALPHANUMERIC OR GEOSPATIAL FORM REFLECTED IN
2 A LIST, A TABLE, A GRAPH, A CHART, A MAP, OR ANY OTHER NONNARRATIVE FORMAT
3 THAT CAN BE DIGITALLY TRANSMITTED OR PROCESSED;

4 (II) IS REGULARLY CREATED OR MAINTAINED BY OR ON BEHALF
5 OF A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY; AND

6 (III) RECORDS A MEASUREMENT, TRANSACTION, OR
7 DETERMINATION OR PROVIDES INFORMATION ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES,
8 INITIATIVES, AND RESOURCES RELATED TO THE MISSION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL
9 ENTITY.

10 (3) “DATA GOVERNANCE” MEANS THE AUTHORITY AND
11 DECISION-MAKING PARAMETERS ESTABLISHED FOR DATA MANAGEMENT,
12 LITERACY, AND USE THROUGHOUT ITS LIFE CYCLE TO ENSURE THAT THE STATE’S
13 DATA ASSETS ARE ACCURATE, CONSISTENT, SECURE, AND ACCESSIBLE WHILE
14 MANAGING PRIVACY AND CYBERSECURITY RISKS, INCLUDING CREATING POLICIES
15 AND PROCEDURES FOR DATA OWNERSHIP, ACCESS CONTROLS, SECURITY,
16 INTEGRITY, TRAINING, AND COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL
17 REGULATIONS.

18 (4) “DATA LIFE CYCLE” MEANS THE FULL LIFE SPAN OF A DATA ASSET
19 FROM CREATION, COLLECTION, AND STORAGE THROUGH USE, SHARING,
20 ARCHIVING, AND DELETION, CONSISTENT WITH NIST-COMPLIANT STANDARDS
21 ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE.

22 (5) “DATA LITERACY” MEANS THE ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND,
23 INTERPRET, CRITICALLY EVALUATE, AND EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE DATA TO
24 INFORM DECISIONS AND DRIVE ACTION.

25 (6) “DATA MANAGEMENT” MEANS PRACTICES, PROCESSES,
26 POLICIES, AND TOOLS USED TO COLLECT, STORE, ORGANIZE, SECURE, MAINTAIN,
27 AND UTILIZE DATA EFFECTIVELY THROUGHOUT ITS ENTIRE LIFE CYCLE.

28 (7) “DATA QUALITY” MEANS HOW WELL DATA MEETS DEFINED
29 STANDARDS, INCLUDING ACCURACY, RELIABILITY, CONSISTENCY, TIMELINESS,
30 VALIDITY, AND UNIQUENESS.

31 (8) “DATA READINESS” MEANS DATA’S FITNESS FOR USE WITH
32 EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES SUCH AS ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND QUANTUM
33 COMPUTING.

1 **(9) “DATA SHARING” MEANS MAKING DATA ACCESSIBLE TO OTHER**
2 **USERS, SYSTEMS, OR ORGANIZATIONS UNDER PRINCIPLES OF SECURITY,**
3 **GOVERNANCE, AND PURPOSE.**

4 **(10) “DATA TRAINING” MEANS EDUCATING STATE EMPLOYEES ABOUT**
5 **HOW TO USE, MANAGE, AND INTERPRET DATA.**

6 **(11) “OFFICE” MEANS THE OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE DATA.**

7 **(B) (1) THERE IS A STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER IN THE DEPARTMENT.**

8 **(2) THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER SHALL BE APPOINTED AND**
9 **SUPERVISED BY THE SECRETARY.**

10 **(3) THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER**
11 **INCLUDE:**

12 **(I) ESTABLISHING, COORDINATING, AND IMPLEMENTING THE**
13 **STATEWIDE DATA STRATEGY AND POLICIES FOR UNITS OF STATE GOVERNMENT;**

14 **(II) ENSURING RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE, USE, AND**
15 **MANAGEMENT OF STATE DATA;**

16 **(III) PROVIDING ADVICE, RECOMMENDATIONS, AND**
17 **CONSULTATIONS TO THE SECRETARY AND ANY UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT**
18 **CONCERNING DATA POLICIES, PROCEDURES, AND STANDARDS;**

19 **(IV) PUBLISHING AN ANNUAL STATE DATA STRATEGIC PLAN;**

20 **(V) DEVELOPING GUIDELINES FOR RESPONSIBLE AND**
21 **EQUITABLE USE OF DATA WITH CRITICAL AND EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES,**
22 **INCLUDING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, AND REQUIREMENTS FOR TRANSPARENCY,**
23 **RISK MANAGEMENT, DATA MINIMIZATION, AND BIAS MITIGATION; AND**

24 **(VI) AT LEAST QUARTERLY, CONVENING AN ENTERPRISE DATA**
25 **COUNCIL CONSISTING OF THE AGENCY DATA OFFICERS APPOINTED UNDER**
26 **SUBSECTION (E) OR (F) OF THIS SECTION TO COORDINATE STATEWIDE DATA**
27 **GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES AND SHARE BEST PRACTICES.**

28 **(C) (1) THERE IS AN OFFICE OF ENTERPRISE DATA IN THE**
29 **DEPARTMENT.**

30 **(2) THE HEAD OF THE OFFICE IS THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER.**

(3) THE OFFICE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR:

(I) ESTABLISHING AND OVERSEEING STATEWIDE DATA LITERACY AND GOVERNANCE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING STATEWIDE POLICIES, FRAMEWORKS, AND STANDARDS FOR DATA MANAGEMENT, READINESS, AND LITERACY, AND SHARING OF STATE DATA;

(II) COMPILING AN AUTHORITATIVE INVENTORY OF STATE DATA;

(III) DEVELOPING STANDARDIZED MECHANISMS FOR COORDINATION BETWEEN STATE AGENCIES, INCLUDING DATA STANDARDS, INTEROPERABILITY GUIDELINES, AND INTERAGENCY DATA REQUEST WORKFLOWS;

(IV) ESTABLISHING PRIVACY-PRESERVING TECHNICAL STANDARDS FOR METADATA MANAGEMENT AND DATA DE-IDENTIFICATION, INCLUDING RISK-BASED AND RE-IDENTIFICATION PROTECTIONS; AND

(V) SUPPORTING AND OVERSEEING TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR AGENCY DATA OFFICERS, INCLUDING ANNUAL CERTIFICATION AND RECERTIFICATION.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE OFFICE WITH SUFFICIENT STAFF TO PERFORM THE FUNCTIONS REQUIRED UNDER THIS SECTION.

(E) (1) EACH PRINCIPAL DEPARTMENT LISTED IN § 8-201 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE SHALL APPOINT AN AGENCY DATA OFFICER.

(2) EACH AGENCY DATA OFFICER SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR:

(I) COLLABORATING WITH THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER; AND

(II) WITH RESPECT TO THEIR UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. DEVELOPING POLICIES THAT GOVERN THE USE, MANAGEMENT, AND SHARING OF THE UNIT'S DATA;

2. OVERSEEING DATA QUALITY;

3. FACILITATING DATA SHARING;

1 4. SUPPORTING DATA LITERACY AND TRAINING;

2 5. IMPLEMENTING DATA PRIVACY AND RISK
3 MANAGEMENT;

4 6. LIMITING PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION
5 COLLECTION;

6 7. REPORTING DATA-RELATED ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING
7 COMPLIANCE WITH STATEWIDE DATA STRATEGY AND POLICIES;

8 8. MAKING REQUESTED DATA AVAILABLE TO THE STATE
9 CHIEF DATA OFFICER;

10 9. SUBMITTING AN ANNUAL INVENTORY OF DATA SETS
11 TO THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER AND IDENTIFYING WHICH DATA SETS ARE
12 PUBLISHABLE CONSISTENT WITH § 3.5-318 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

13 10. FILING AND UPDATING AN ANNUAL OPEN DATA PLAN
14 WITH THE OFFICE SPECIFYING PUBLICATION PRIORITIES, TIMELINES, FORMATS,
15 AND DATA QUALITY EXPECTATIONS CONSISTENT WITH STATEWIDE STANDARDS AND
16 THE TECHNICAL STANDARDS MANUAL;

17 11. SHARING INFORMATION WITH OTHER STATE
18 ENTITIES TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY LAW TO IMPROVE SERVICES AND
19 REDUCE DUPLICATIVE COLLECTION, SUBJECT TO SECURITY, PRIVACY, AND
20 CONFIDENTIALITY REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE OFFICE; AND

21 12. PARTICIPATING IN THE COUNCIL ON OPEN DATA
22 ESTABLISHED UNDER § 10-1503 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.

23 (3) EACH AGENCY DATA OFFICER SHALL COMPLY WITH DIRECTIONS
24 FROM THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER AS TO THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE
25 UNIT'S DATA.

26 (F) A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT THAT IS NOT A PRINCIPAL
27 DEPARTMENT LISTED IN § 8-201 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE MAY:

28 (1) APPOINT AN AGENCY DATA OFFICER FOR THE PURPOSE OF
29 COLLABORATING WITH THE STATE CHIEF DATA OFFICER ON THE DEVELOPMENT
30 OF POLICIES THAT GOVERN THE USE, MANAGEMENT, AND SHARING OF STATE DATA;
31 AND

1 **(2) DESIGNATE THE AGENCY DATA OFFICER AS A MEMBER OF THE**
2 **ENTERPRISE DATA COUNCIL CONVENED UNDER SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
4 1, 2026.