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Support with Amendments

Senate Finance Committee

Senate Bill 541 (Gile) Maryland Online Data Privacy Act of 2024



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On behalf of the member institutions of the Maryland Independent College and University Association (MICUA) and the nearly 55,000 students we serve, I thank you for the opportunity to provide this written testimony support with amendments [SB 541 \(Gile\) Maryland Online Data Privacy Act of 2024](#). This bill establishes a new standard for data privacy in Maryland both for consumers as well as controllers of data.



The bill is similar to legislation passed in other states across the country to provide consumers a greater say in the use and sale of their data. MICUA members take data privacy extremely seriously and spend a tremendous amount of time and resources to keep student data protected. Unfortunately, the bill seems to inadvertently single out non-profit institutions of higher education for inclusion while exempting public institutions of higher education. Similar bills in other states like Utah, Colorado and Connecticut have exempted both public and non-profit institutions of higher education.



MICUA requests that the sponsors consider a friendly amendment to Sec. 14-4603(3) that would include an exemption for non-profit institutions of higher education.



If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact Irnande Altema, Associate Vice President for Government and Business Affairs, ialtema@micua.org.



For all of these reasons, MICUA requests a favorable Committee report, with amendments, for Senate Bill 541.

