



DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AUDITS
MARYLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

April 28, 2026

Senator Guy J. Guzzone, Chair
Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
Miller Senate Office Building, 3 West Wing
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Senator Shelly L. Hettleman, Senate Chair
Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
James Senate Office Building, Room 220
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Benjamin S. Barnes, Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Taylor House Office Building, Room 121
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Jared Solomon, House Chair
Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee
Lowe House Office Building, Room 312
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Ladies and Gentlemen:

In accordance with a requirement contained in the April 2025 *Joint Chairmen's Report* (JCR), pages 74 and 75, the Office of Legislative Audits (OLA) has reviewed the findings and report by the State Chief Information Security Officer (SCISO) of actions taken by six agencies to resolve certain repeat audit findings in calendar year 2024 OLA audit reports.

The JCR required that, prior to the release of \$250,000 of the appropriation made for the purpose of Executive Direction for the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) for fiscal year 2026, the six agencies must meet with the SCISO concerning their repeat cybersecurity¹ findings. The meeting was to identify and document a path for resolution of any outstanding issues and to confirm that the agencies have taken corrective action with respect to their cybersecurity audit findings, including articulating any ongoing associated costs and a timeline for resolution if the corrective action is not complete.

The JCR required the SCISO to submit a report to OLA by February 1, 2026 addressing corrective actions taken, a path and timeline for resolution of any outstanding issues, and any ongoing costs associated with corrective actions. The JCR also provided that OLA submit a

¹ The term "cybersecurity" is defined in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Section 3.5-301(c), as processes or capabilities wherein systems, communications, and information are protected and defended against damage, unauthorized use or modification, and exploitation. Cybersecurity-related findings are designated by OLA using our professional judgment and a conservative interpretation of this definition.

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report by May 1, 2026 to the budget committees and the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee listing each repeat audit finding, along with information that demonstrates the agencies' commitment to correct each repeat audit finding.

In accordance with the JCR requirement, the SCISO provided a report, dated February 2026, summarizing its assessment of the actions taken by the six agencies with respect to the repeat audit findings. The report noted that the agencies met with the SCISO and/or the Governance, Risk and Compliance team.

Based on our review of the conclusions summarized in the SCISO's report and additional information provided, it is our opinion that all agencies have taken sufficient corrective actions to resolve their respective repeat findings or have committed to an agreed upon corrective action plan with the SCISO for each repeat finding. Our conclusions were based on the information reported and did not constitute an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted government auditing standards. We also did not review the reported actions at each of the six agencies to ensure they were implemented and were effective in establishing sufficient cybersecurity controls to address the concerns noted in the findings. Such efforts will be included in our next scheduled audits of these agencies.

This public letter differs from the confidential letter previously provided to the addressees, as detailed information and exhibits necessary for the budget committees and the Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee to review and comment on the relevant information has been redacted. This redaction was undertaken in accordance with the State Government Article Section 2-1224(i), of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

We advised DoIT and DBM of the results of our review. We wish to acknowledge the cooperation extended by DoIT and DBM during this review.

We trust our response satisfactorily addresses the JCR requirement. Please contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Tanen

Brian S. Tanen, CPA, CFE
Legislative Auditor

Senator Guy J. Guzzone, Chair
Delegate Benjamin S. Barnes, Chair
Senator Shelly L. Hettleman, Senate Chair
Delegate Jared Solomon, House Chair

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cc: Joint Audit and Evaluation Committee Members and Staff
Senator William C. Ferguson IV, President of the Senate
Delegate Joseline A. Peña-Melnyk, Speaker of the House of Delegates
Governor Westley W. Moore
Comptroller Brooke E. Lierman
Treasurer Dereck E. Davis
Attorney General Anthony G. Brown
Secretary Yaakov Weissmann, Esq., Department of Budget and Management
Secretary Katie Olson Savage, Department of Information Technology
James Saunders, State Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Information
Technology
Victoria L. Gruber, Executive Director, Department of Legislative Services