

**SUFFICIENCY OF THE GOVERNOR'S ARTIFICIAL  
INTELLIGENCE SUBCABINET AND EVALUATION OF  
POTENTIAL TRANSITION**

Department of Information Technology

December 2025



Wes Moore | Governor  
Aruna Miller | Lt. Governor  
Katie Savage | Secretary

December 2, 2025

The Honorable Wes Moore  
Governor, State of Maryland  
Executive Department  
State House  
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Bill Ferguson  
Senate President  
State House, H-107 State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Adrienne A. Jones  
Speaker of the House of Delegates  
State House, H-101 State House  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

**Re: Report on the Sufficiency of the Governor’s Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet and Evaluation of Potential Transition Under SB 818 / Chapter 496 (2024)**

The Honorable Wes Moore and Presiding Officers:

This report is submitted pursuant to SB 818 / Chapter 496 (2024) and State Government Article § 2-1257, which require the Governor’s Artificial Intelligence Subcabinet to report on the sufficiency of the Subcabinet to accomplish the State’s artificial intelligence objectives and to evaluate the efficacy of potentially transitioning the Subcabinet into a department or an independent State unit. Established within the Governor’s Executive Council and supported operationally by the Maryland Department of Information Technology (DoIT), the Subcabinet is responsible for coordinating statewide AI governance, policy development, cybersecurity alignment, data stewardship, and agency implementation.

Under the leadership of Secretary Katie Savage, the State hired Nishant Shah as our first-ever Senior Advisor for Responsible AI in September 2023. In addition to creating a multidisciplinary team to provide direct agency support and build the foundations for AI enablement, Shah operationalized the Subcabinet following its legislated existence effective July 1, 2024. The Subcabinet comprises leadership from State agencies including the Departments of Commerce, Labor, Education, Budget and Management, General Services, Governor’s Office of Homeland Security, the State Chief Privacy Officer, the State Chief Data Officer and the State Chief Information Security Officer, as well as other subject matter experts as necessary.

Since its inception 18 months ago, the Subcabinet has proven to be an effective cross-agency collaboration forum to set agendas, make decisions, and build State-level AI strategy. Thus, the Subcabinet finds that its current structure is sufficient and effective in furthering Maryland’s AI objectives. Because of being chaired and operationalized by DoIT, the Subcabinet benefits from DoIT’s centralized enterprise functions, including the statewide CTO, CISO, Chief Privacy



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Officer, and Senior Advisor for Responsible AI, which together provide the technical expertise, security infrastructure, procurement authority, and governance mechanisms necessary for safe and rapid implementation of emerging AI technologies. Transitioning the Subcabinet into a standalone department or independent unit - as opposed to an empowered cross-agency group chaired by DoIT - is not advised at this time.

Every institution can be made more effective, however. In 2026, we anticipate evolving it to become more collaborative and to make deeper use of its ability to spin up workgroups, as well as using it as a forum to bring in more external experts to help frame up decisions. We also intend to better position it as one of *multiple* mechanisms that powers our AI adoption efforts, including, for example, the AI Community of Practice. The Subcabinet reaffirms its commitment to ensuring that the State's adoption of artificial intelligence continues to be safe, transparent, equitable, and aligned with Maryland's strategic technology modernization goals.

Sincerely,

Katie Savage  
Secretary  
Department of Information Technology