



**TECHNET**  
THE VOICE OF THE  
INNOVATION ECONOMY



Internet Association

**CompTIA** The IT Industry  
Trade Association

STATE PRIVACY AND SECURITY COALITION

**DMA** DATA &  
MARKETING  
ASSOCIATION

**NetChoice**

March 26, 2018

Honorable Thomas Middleton, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
Miller Senate Office Building, 11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Senator Middleton:

The undersigned associations represent hundreds of the country's leading technology companies in high-tech manufacturing, computer networking and information technology, clean energy, life sciences, internet media, ecommerce, education and sharing economy sectors. Our member companies are committed to advancing public policies and private sector initiatives that make the U.S. the most innovative country in the world.

**We ask that you do not advance HB 1372**, the automatic renewal bill, as it would be unnecessary, unique to Maryland and a limitation on interstate commerce. It would prove problematic for any entity wanting to serve Maryland consumers and grow to serve other states.

The Restore Online Shoppers' Confidence Act (ROSCA) already requires online companies to provide customers with clear and conspicuous notice at the time a customer signs up to receive services that automatically renew. Companies must also disclose the material terms and conditions of the contract renewal in a clear and informed way and obtain opt-in from consumers before charging them for the services.

We cannot support legislation at this time that would require a SEPARATE consent for just autorenewal sections of a contract and just for customers in Maryland. This would prescribe a multi-step contract agreement that is incompatible with how agreements typically work when entered into through an online format so does not take into account the varying business models and the service options available today to customers.

**For these reasons, we ask that you please not advance HB 1372.** Feel free to contact Tammy Cota, Executive Director of the Internet Coalition ([tammy@theinternetcoalition.com](mailto:tammy@theinternetcoalition.com) or 802-279-3534) with questions or if you would like to discuss this issue in more detail.

Sincerely,

Internet Coalition, CompTIA, Data & Marketing Association, Internet Association, NetChoice, State Privacy and Security Coalition and TechNet

cc: Senate Finance Committee Members