UTILITY. FAQ: House Bill 1081 (Modernizing ALPR Data Storage)

Q: What is HB 1081?

HB 1081 is a bill in Maryland that allows law enforcement agencies to store **ALPR data in the cloud** rather than on physical servers, while enhancing privacy and security protections.

Q: How does this bill enhance privacy?

The bill clarifies that ALPR data belongs to law enforcement, prohibiting its sale or unauthorized access by vendors or third parties. It includes strong measures to protect personal identifying information (PII).

Q: Who supports HB 1081?

Key stakeholders such as **a leading ALPR vendor**, the **Maryland Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs Association**, and various law enforcement agencies support the bill with amendments to strengthen data security.

Q: Will the bill impose additional costs on law enforcement?

No, HB 1081 does not mandate any changes. It simply provides the option for law enforcement agencies to use cloud storage, which may reduce infrastructure costs in the long run.

Q: How does this bill impact vendors?

Vendors cannot **access or sell** ALPR data without authorization from the law enforcement agency. This ensures that the data is fully controlled by the agencies responsible for public safety.

Q: What protections are in place to prevent unauthorized access to the data?

The bill includes **vendor restrictions**, ensuring that vendors and third parties cannot access the data unless explicitly authorized by law enforcement. It also prohibits the sharing of ALPR data with **federal or state agencies outside of Maryland.**

Q: What happens if there is a data breach?

The bill requires law enforcement and vendors to follow strict breach reporting procedures. Any breach must be reported immediately, and the law enforcement agency remains responsible for ensuring the security of the data.

Q: How does the bill address concerns about backdoor access to data?

The bill ensures that **vendors do not own the data** and that **law enforcement retains full control** over its access. By using encrypted cloud storage and strict auditing requirements, the bill mitigates the risk of any unauthorized backdoor access by third parties.