



MARYLAND STATE GOVERNMENT SPENDING ON RESTRICTED TECHNOLOGY

MAY 2023

Overview

- Between 2019 and 2020, the state of Maryland spent \$61,402 on restricted Chinese technology from Lexmark, Inc. All purchases were made by the Maryland Department of Health. There is no recorded spending on Lenovo, Inc. technology and no recorded recent spending on Lexmark technology since 2020.

The Problem

- Chinese government-owned technology manufacturers Lenovo and Lexmark have been restricted from U.S. military and intelligence agencies due to their connection to the Chinese government and military. While federal policy directs information security at the federal level, states must determine their own security standards making states vulnerable to intrusion through the purchase of these risky Chinese technology products. For more detail on these two manufacturers and others, see our briefing paper at www.StatesStopChinaTech.com.

The Process

- In March 2023, China Tech Threat (CTT) obtained Maryland's detailed financial records of payments to Lexmark, showing payment amounts, dates and check numbers, payor agencies or departments, and descriptions of services, through the Maryland Transparency Portal, an online database made available to improve transparency.
- However, purchases of restricted technology through third-party resellers, which can be significant, are not yet captured in our research. Any future efforts to identify and restrict purchases of Chinese-owned technology manufacturers should include resellers.

Lexmark

In 2019, \$35,524 of technology purchased by the Maryland Department of Health.

In 2020, \$25,878 of technology purchased by the Maryland Department of Health.