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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB892
**Public Information Act – Motor Vehicle Administration – Warrant for Personal
Information and Reporting**

TO: Chair Barve, Vice Chair Stein, members of the Environment & Transportation Committee

FROM: Jerry Kickenson

I am writing in support of House Bill 892, Public Information Act – Motor Vehicle Administration – Warrant for Personal Information and Reporting, as a resident of Montgomery County's District 18. .

Jewish sacred text and tradition teach us to welcome the stranger, for we were strangers in the land of Egypt. Leviticus 19:34 explicitly instructs us to treat the immigrant in our land the same as native citizens. Maryland granted drivers licenses to undocumented residents with assurances that their information would not be used against them. Many of my neighbors have obtained these licenses. Yet, the Motor Vehicle Administration's database and records can be and are searched by all federal law enforcement agencies, including ICE. If Maryland shared my personal information with federal authorities so that I could be arrested, incarcerated and potentially deported, I would not consider that being treated fairly as a native citizen.

How does sharing this information with ICE contribute to public safety in Maryland? It does not. Rather, the current situation deters undocumented residents from becoming licensed drivers, making the roads less safe for everyone, not more. It is also grossly unfair and a perversion to offer this kind of license, and then turn around and let ICE use information collected against those who in good faith obtain that license. HB892 will fix this unjust and unsafe practice by prohibiting ICE from accessing MVA records without a judicial warrant.

The problem this bill addresses is not theoretical. ICE has searched through motor vehicle administration databases in several states, including Maryland's, searching for possible undocumented residents.

I strongly urge you to reach a favorable report for HB892.