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To the Esteemed Senators of the State of Maryland:

I am writing in favor of the Driver Privacy Act to limit cooperation between the MVA and U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE). As a citizen of Baltimore, MD, and a daughter of immigrants, I feel that this is an important step in protecting civil liberties of those who are immigrants. I have extreme concerns about the operations of ICE, as well as the lack of transparency and oversight. The news of treatment of detainees is appalling, as well as the separation of children from their parents, and continued detention without justification or adequate legal representation. Under the last few years, ICE has been allowed to operate as a shadow agency without accountability. I believe under the new federal administration, this hopefully will be resolved, along with greater expansion for legal avenues for people to obtain citizenship. **Until then, the legal and ethical thing to do for the State of Maryland is to limit information sharing between agencies.**

On a practical level, this is also vital in maintaining the safety of our roadways. Immigrants (including ones who are here legally) who are afraid of being detained by ICE are deterred from seeking services at the MVA, leading to more drivers on the road without license or registration – which puts us all at risk.

It is time to restore trust in law enforcement and our government's institutions. We need to bring back accountability in the process. **We should require ICE agents to do due diligence and obtain warrants when seeking information** – just as we require any law enforcement officer to do the same when investigating citizens.

In conclusion, I hope that you vote in favor of Senate Bill 234.

Thank you,

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