



faith. love. liberation.
fe. amor. Liberación.

Testimony in support of SB0234/HB0023

Personal Information - State and Local Agencies - Restrictions on Access

To: Hon. Luke Clippinger, Chair, and members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Jerry Kickenson and Martha Wells, Congregation Action Network

Date: January 27, 2021

We are writing in **support of Senate Bill 0234/House Bill 0023**, Personal Information - State and Local Agencies - Restrictions on Access, on behalf of the Congregation Action Network. The Congregation Action Network is a network of faith communities in Washington, DC, and the Maryland and Virginia suburbs acting in solidarity to end detention, deportation, profiling, and criminalization of immigrants and demanding and upholding justice, dignity, safety, and family unity. With over 75 congregations and a thousand members throughout the capital area, including over 25 congregations with thousands of members in Montgomery and Prince George's counties, we live our faith in advocacy for and solidarity with our immigrant neighbors.

As people of faith committed to ending the detention and deportation of immigrants, we adhere to the sacred texts of most major faiths that call for welcoming the stranger and treating each other with love, dignity, respect, and compassion. We believe in liberation and that immigrant families should be united and free - never incarcerated.

SB0234/HB0023 would prohibit MVA, as well as state and local law enforcement agencies, from sharing personal data with federal agencies for civil immigration enforcement, and for criminal immigration enforcement without a judicial warrant. It would also require public reporting of all such requests.

We strongly urge you to reach a favorable report for SB0234/HB0023. It will protect the privacy of all Maryland residents, and help protect our immigrant neighbors residing in Maryland. It is the moral and right thing to do.

Respectfully yours,

Jerry Kickenson

Cluster Leader, Congregation Action Network (Montgomery County)

Martha Wells

Cluster Leader, Congregation Action Network (Prince Georges County)