

SB 839- UNFAVORABLE! The bill proposes using mobile technology to implement an immunization record “service” called MyIR. This vaccine passport would display COVID 19 vaccination status allegedly for admission to certain venues.

It would furthermore use tax payer money to develop and promote this outrageous and unnecessary “service”. The bill claims the MyIR is VOLUNTARY, but when does voluntary become MANDATORY?

This wording from the bill is very concerning and frankly anything that has SMART in it sets off alarm bells:

HAS A **SMART** HEALTH CARD QR CODE THAT IS VERIFIED AS VALID UNDER **COMMONTRUST NETWORK REQUIREMENTS FOR MULTISTATE FUNCTIONALITY**;

(5) IS COMPATIBLE WITH **MULTINATIONAL VACCINE PASSPORT PLATFORMS**;

With all this connectivity to other platforms, there are serious privacy concerns as when the Maryland data base was hacked late last year.

Standardizing a COVID-19 vaccine passport format is essentially a state sponsored endorsement of COVID-19 vaccine and is discrimination. Any form of discrimination against individuals unvaccinated against COVID-19 is essentially a form of coercion to try and get them vaccinated by implementing barriers to navigate life. It also reduces the focus from health to mere vaccine status.

Multiple states have prohibited vaccine passports including Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Montana, North Dakota, Oklahoma (for students) South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah (government ban only), and Wyoming. Maryland should too. **THIS WRETCHED BILL MUST BE STOPPED!**

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