

Written testimony for HB0839.

Jaime Brooke

I am a registered democrat living in West Laurel (20707), and I oppose HB0839.

I am strongly opposed to this bill for many reasons, but mainly the fact that it deals with starting a digital V passport for the state of Maryland. This is not only a violation of privacy, but a huge expense that I feel is not necessary. There are so many other areas where this money could be going: keeping our children safer and well prepared in schools, environmental initiatives, housing/community initiatives for impoverished neighborhoods (especially for youth and young mothers). Also, the Maryland Health Department had a breach/data was compromised just recently this year. I do not feel comfortable with my health information (and especially my vaccination status) on my phone. I know it says "optional", but we know that this can open doors that shouldn't be opened. A passport will do nothing to stop the spread of Covid (we know this now). This will lead to healthy unvaccinated individuals who are not carrying the virus, or have natural immunity from a previous infection will be discriminated against like they have been over the last year. New York, who has a passport system is now dropping the passport. We need to follow the science and protect the privacy and health decisions of Marylanders.

Medical decisions have always been private, and respected. This should remain. Please VOTE NO on HB0840.

Thank you,

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