

**Testimony in Support of HB 995
Commercial Law - Health Data Privacy
Health and Government Operations Committee
Economic Matters Committee
March 1, 2023**

FAVORABLE

TO: Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee
Chair Wilson, Vice Chair Crosby, and members of the Economic Matters Committee

FROM: Kay Schuster and Ellen Sizemore, Co-Presidents
Hadassah Greater Baltimore

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. holds reproductive choice is an important issue to ensure all women have agency over their own bodies and the autonomy to make health decisions for themselves. As the Greater Baltimore Region of Hadassah, representing over 4,100 Marylanders, we are writing to urge you to support HB 995, a bill that will ensure that individuals would have control over if, when and to whom private online data would be disclosed by private companies.

Hadassah has and always will stand unequivocally for reproductive choice and empowering women with the knowledge to make critical health decisions for themselves and their families. Any interference with the doctor-patient relationship – preventing doctors from discussing women's specific concerns, sharing expert medical guidance, or providing necessary care – poses a serious threat to women's health.

Reproductive freedom is critical to women's health and all persons should be able to make reproductive health choices based on medical guidance and what they feel is best for their health, families, and future. This legislation will help protect individuals against those who might intimidate or threaten those seeking reproductive health services.

We strongly urge you to support HB 995 to protect reproductive freedom and ensure data privacy.

Thank you,
Kay Schuster and Ellen Sizemore
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