



BILL NO: Senate Bill 541
TITLE: Maryland Online Data Privacy Act of 2024
COMMITTEE: Finance
HEARING DATE: February 14, 2024
POSITION: **SUPPORT**

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that brings together victim service providers, allied professionals, and concerned individuals for the common purpose of reducing intimate partner and family violence and its harmful effects on our citizens. **MNADV urges the Senate Finance Committee to issue a favorable report on SB 541.**

Senate Bill 541 is an important example of policy and laws that are needed to keep up with rapidly evolving technology. This bill provides protections to consumer information collected online. Most people do not understand the laws governing information shared online and may think that information is in fact protected when it is not protected. For victims of domestic violence, privacy is of the utmost importance and can be critical for their safety.

MNADV supports this legislation because it would allow Maryland to protect the privacy of consumer information. Online vendors would be restricted, except in limited circumstances, from sharing or redisclosing sensitive consumer data without the express consent of the consumer. The legislation also provides additional protection for consumers seeking reproductive and behavioral health services by prohibiting the use of geofencing data to track those consumers.

For the above stated reasons, the **Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence urges a favorable report on SB 541.**