

February 19, 2025

Dear **Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,**

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with CASA de Maryland. I am a resident of District 43A. **I am testifying in support of SB 977, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

Immigrants in Maryland my friends, my neighbors, and other hard-working people who help build our communities and they do not deserve to live in fear. Federal immigration authorities have a history of abusing state-held databases containing personal information in order to help them target immigrants: **after Maryland allowed undocumented immigrants to apply for driver's licenses in 2013, ICE began using MVA data to conduct their work.** In 2021, the General Assembly passed the Driver Privacy Act over the governor's veto to shut down this tactic. However, many other agencies in Maryland maintain databases of personal information that can include immigrants, and those databases are still open to ICE scrutiny. With the federal government on a mission to imprison as many immigrants as possible, we must act to close this loophole in our data privacy.

SB 977 would ban all Maryland state and local government agencies from sharing access to their databases of sensitive personal information, or information taken from those databases, with federal immigration authorities unless those authorities have a real warrant, signed by a judge, authorizing their access to private information. In addition, SB 977 seeks to fight back against the president's revocation of the "sensitive locations" policy by requiring government agencies to deny access to their buildings and facilities to immigration authorities unless they have a warrant signed by a judge. While this does not provide complete protection to people attempting to access resources and services, it at least makes it more difficult for ICE to target local and state government facilities for raids/general enforcement actions.

We must stand up for our friends and neighbors by doing what we can in Maryland to support them. It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to vote **in support of SB 977, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Dolamore
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Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore