

February 26, 2025

Chair William Smith, Jr.  
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Testimony In Support of SB889 Distribution of Students' Personal Information - Prohibition

Dear Chair Smith and Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:

Submitted by: Jewish Voice for Peace Action members in Baltimore

I submit this testimony on behalf of myself and other Jewish Voice for Peace Action members in Baltimore, a grassroots organization committed to justice, human rights, and the protection of all communities against targeted harassment and intimidation. We strongly support SB889 and urge its swift passage.

Doxxing—the malicious publication of personal information to encourage harassment, threats, or violence—has increasingly been weaponized against activists, journalists, educators, and marginalized communities, including Jews, Palestinians, Muslims, Black and brown activists, and other advocates for human rights. We have seen firsthand how doxxing has been used to silence voices critical of systemic injustice, endangering individuals and their families.

As an organization that stands against all forms of hate, we recognize that doxxing is not just an issue of privacy but of public safety. The consequences of being doxxed can be devastating: job loss, physical threats, swatting incidents, and long-term psychological harm. No one should have to fear for their safety for exercising their rights to free speech and civic engagement.

This legislation provides critical protections by establishing clear legal consequences for those who engage in doxxing and ensuring that Maryland residents—regardless of their race, religion, or political beliefs—are safeguarded from online harassment campaigns designed to incite real-world harm.

In a time of rising political intimidation and hate-fueled attacks, Maryland has the opportunity to take a stand against these dangerous tactics and affirm its commitment to protecting civil liberties. We urge the General Assembly to pass this bill and send a clear message that targeted harassment has no place in our state.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jewish Voice for Peace Action members in Baltimore