

BILL#SB0766_AnitaLampel_FAV

Date of Hearing: Feb. 18, 2025

Anita Lampel

Bethesda, MD, 20817

TESTIMONY ON SB#0977- POSITION: FAVORABLE
Maryland Data Privacy Act

TO: Chair Smith, Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee

FROM: Anita Lampel

My name is Anita Lampel. I am a resident of District 16. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0977, Maryland Data Privacy Act.

I am a member of Adat Shalom Reconstructionist Congregation, the Women's Democratic Club of Montgomery County, and a philanthropic organization giving funding to local nonprofits that serve impacted communities. My Jewish values teach me to the stranger because I was also a stranger.

When my mother was eleven-years-old, her parents crossed into the United States from Canada without papers, making them, my mother, and her four siblings all undocumented immigrants. At sixteen, my mother was removed from high school and sent back to Canada with her family because of their immigrant status. My mother was devastated, her siblings were devastated. And I lived with that trauma of hers.

We must do better. We must ensure our law abiding immigrants, who are the vast vast majority, are not unfairly targeted. This bill will prevent ICE from accessing state databases without a warrant, thus securing everyone's information. With threats to our privacy everywhere in the federal government, DOGE accessing our IRS information, we must make sure that no one looks at data that the state holds without a proper reason to do so.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0977.