

# Maryland Data Privacy Act

Bill number and link: [SB977](#)

**Description:** Maryland Data Privacy Act (2025: TK) After realizing that the MVA was giving information on immigrants with driver's licenses to ICE, activists worked to pass legislation banning the MVA from turning over information like this without a warrant. This bill would apply the same protections to data possessed by other Maryland agencies, so they can't be used by ICE to hunt down immigrants.

## Action Alert Messaging:

### Resources:

- [CASA description](#)
- [CASA presentation on ICE use of data from the MVA](#) (the legislation this presentation talks about was passed over the governor's veto in 2021, but it's useful information because it's an example both of how ICE uses free access to state databases to target immigrants, and how legislation can be used to combat it)
- [Leg Day Video \(58 minutes\)](#)

Partner: [CASA de Maryland](#)

---

### Introduce yourself

- Where do you live? (include MD District #)
- Do you have expertise?
- List organizations (community, religious, business, etc.) you are a member of

### Express your position/request clearly

- State whether you are in SUPPORT or AGAINST said bill
- **Include bill number**

### Factual arguments to back up your position

- Can use data from Accountability Partner presentations/websites

### Personal story

- This is often the most powerful part!
- Can use anecdotes from Accountability Partner or SURJ presentations
- If you don't have direct personal experience, how does the experience of others affect you and/or your community?

### Review/ restate your position

### Thank the legislator!

On the next page, yellow highlighted areas represent places that should be modified for the testimony template to be complete.

Red bold areas should remain in the document and are filled in by individual people

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 12** and I am testifying in support of **SB0977, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**



**Showing Up for Racial Justice**

President Trump's cruel attack on immigrants has already begun, and it is incumbent upon Maryland to protect the people that he is dedicated to demonizing: our friends, our neighbors, hard-working people who help build our communities and don't 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 in this way. 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.

SB0977 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, SB0977 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.

The law does not require us to freely lend the federal government our resources to help President Trump conduct his anti-immigrant campaign. We must stand up for our friends and neighbors by refusing to be complicit. It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to vote **in support of SB0977, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Rachael Mady  
4870 Dorsey Hall Drive, Unit 8, Ellicott City, MD 21042  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore