

## Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 977

State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

House Judiciary Committee

March 24, 2025

Dear Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Committee,

Kyle Orland is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 977 State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act (SB 977) takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities and third-party data brokers, are prohibited from sharing personal information with governmental entities for the purposes of immigration enforcement unless a valid warrant is presented.

SB 977 provides critical safeguards against loopholes that entities can take advantage of to obtain personal immigration for the purposes of immigration enforcement. Data brokers hold tremendously detailed information about virtually every person in the country, including information about people's addresses, financial transactions, relationships, and detailed location from tracking people's phones and cars. Data brokers are largely unregulated and aggregate and make all of this sensitive information available for purchase. Immigration authorities are able to simply buy it without any court oversight or transparency, circumventing due process and accountability. For example, researchers have uncovered ICE's purchase of detailed cell phone location information and phone, water, electricity, and other utility records.<sup>1</sup>

I interact with countless immigrants personally in my everyday life and have found them to be some of the most important members of the community. They deserve to be able to live in our community without fear of unreasonable search and seizure, and to have their private information protected from improper use by law enforcement.

---

<sup>1</sup> [New Records Detail DHS Purchase and Use of Vast Quantities of Cell Phone Location Data | ACLU](#)