

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Alicia Pereschuk

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 43. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Alicia Pereschuk  
319 Homeland Southway  
Baltimore MD 21212  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **NDWA DMV Chapter Data Protection House.pdf**

Uploaded by: Allison Yunda

Position: FAV



## Testimony in SUPPORT of hb1431

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

February 27, 2025

The National Domestic Workers Alliance is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of hb1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

The National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA) works to win the respect, recognition, and labor rights of the nearly 2.5 million domestic workers—nannies, house cleaners, and homecare workers—who play a crucial role in caring for our families and homes. Domestic workers perform vital tasks that enable all other work to happen. They are the caregivers who look after our children, the cleaners who maintain our homes, and the care providers who help our loved ones live with dignity and independence. While the National Domestic Workers Alliance is a national organization, our DMV chapter is a local, membership-based organization covering the geographical area of Washington DC, Maryland, and Virginia.

Most domestic workers are at the heart of some of the nation's most significant issues due to their identities and roles: they are primarily women—many of whom are women of color, immigrants, mothers, and low-wage earners. Their lives are directly impacted by policies that shape the future of our economy, democracy, and society. And unfortunately, right now, many domestic workers are facing uncertainty and fear due to the federal attacks on immigrant communities.

We are hearing from many of our immigrant members in Maryland that they are living in fear daily. Many of our members have lived here for multiple decades without a path to a legal status. They have had children that were born in this country, they have taken care of other families through their professions- yet, now they feel more vulnerable than ever due to their immigration statuses.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act **hb1431** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

If state and local agencies have the protections to safeguard sensitive data from ICE, our members will feel a bit of peace in our state where many of them have lived and contributed to for decades.

NDWA DMV Chapter stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:



1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. **NDWA DMV Chapter** once again calls on this legislature to act.

**NDWA DMV Chapter urges the committee to provide a favorable report on hb1431.**

# **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Alyssa Duda

Position: FAV

Date of Hearing: February 27th

Alyssa Duda, LCSW-C  
Silver Spring, MD 20902

**TESTIMONY ON (SB977/HB1431) - POSITION: FAVORABLE**  
**Maryland Data Privacy Act**

**TO:** Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chari Bartlett and Members of the Committee

**FROM:** Alyssa Duda, LCSW-C

**My name is Alyssa Duda. I am a resident of District 18, writing in strong support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

I am a proud resident of a diverse neighborhood in Wheaton, MD which includes a number of immigrants and their families. I am a business owner of a mental health private practice and am pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431. In my private practice, I provide mental health support to many of whom are impacted by the erosion of data protection. I support them with the harmful and negative impact on their well-being, mental health, families and livelihoods. Additionally, I have a long history of serving asylum seekers, undocumented migrants, documented migrants, their families and their support communities through direct service such as a school social worker, a mental health provider as well as in community mutual aid. I have seen and learned first-hand the detriment that not having data protection has not only on myself as an individual living within the state but the terror, fear and inability to engage in a community in a meaningful way has on my immigrant neighbors, colleagues and clients.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented. I have seen first hand when these communities begin to fear how access to their data or their spaces compromises safety, disrupts essential lifesaving services and creates fear among the people I serve. I work with parents who are afraid to send their children to school or allow their children to receive access to services that are essential in eliminating childhood hunger such as free breakfast or lunch programs. I work with teenagers who have become so depressed about their future and the lack of safety in their world that they have become suicidal and are afraid to turn to the places where they usually seek support because they fear this will somehow identify them to authorities. I work with one woman who has stopped accessing essential medical care out of fear of how her data will be used and lack of protection in hospital spaces. Another family fears registering their vehicles or updating their Maryland ID's due to the fear of the unknown of how their data will be used or accessed. These families and individuals desperately want to participate in their communities and not only abide by regulations and law but be allowed to help our community flourish by building businesses and educating their children. The passing of this bill would help ensure that these individuals and families would be allowed to safely access

lifesaving medical care, their right to education or their rights to worship as well as support our communities in continuing to grow and thrive.

I, Alyssa Duda, stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

- Limit Access to databases and facilities: Law enforcement agencies and state or local government unites must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court issued warrant
- Protect Personal Information: The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric data, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due to legal processes are followed.
- Provide Accountability and Transparency: Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency
- Ensure Enforcement and Penalties: The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of ALL Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state we promote values of dignity, safety and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I, Alyssa Duda and Healing Pathways Counseling and Consulting LLC, once again calls on this legislature to act. I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.

Sincerely,

Alyssa Duda, LCSW-C

# **HB1431\_AndrewMiller\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Andrew Miller

Position: FAV

**February 27, 2025**

Andrew J. Miller

Baltimore, MD 21209

**Testimony on HB1431- POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee

**My name is Andrew Miller. I am a resident of District 11B, Chair of the Social Justice Advocacy Committee at Chizuk Amuno Congregation in Stevenson, MD, and Chair of the Synagogue Social Justice Roundtable, which has representatives from synagogue communities in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB1431.**

Our sacred texts command us to love the stranger, as we ourselves were once strangers in the land of Egypt, and many of our families came to the United States to escape persecution. For me and for many in my community, protection of immigrants is therefore a sacred obligation. For the last several years our congregation and others have worked in support of Afghan refugee families fleeing the Taliban by providing direct support with the help of refugee relief organizations working in collaboration with the federal government. That collaboration has now been terminated.

Many of us have also worked over the last 8 years, together with immigrant support organizations, to protect the rights of other immigrants who arrived in our country to take refuge from oppressive conditions elsewhere in the world. The new federal administration is now working to undermine the asylum system and to deport millions of undocumented immigrants, and is even trying to override existing protections for immigrants with legal protected status. Immigrants are important contributors to our economy and to our communities here in Maryland, where they make up 17% of the population. They are not criminals. But many are now living in fear that they will be accosted at their places of work, at hospitals, schools, houses of worship, and in courthouses, and that their families could be separated as has already started to happen.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act **HB1431** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

I stand with immigrant communities and support the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

**I therefore urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB1431.**

# **1431 Witness testimony DCC MD SB0977.pdf**

Uploaded by: Anna Spector

Position: FAV



Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431

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

Senate Judiciary Proceedings Committee OR House Judiciary Committee

February 25, 2025

SB: Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

I am pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 977 /HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).

I am a general and emergency psychiatrist treating people with psychosis and suicidal ideation, amongst other psychiatric emergencies. My duty is to treat patients regardless of their immigration status. My patients often already have paranoid ideation because of their baseline mental illness or temporary condition, and it is imperative they feel safe consulting a physician. Patient data must be protected to ensure my patients can trust me to help them. When data is shared with federal immigration authorities, trust is eroded, and my patients may not seek help. Patients who suffer alone are at higher risk of self-harm including suicide, as well as at higher risk of harming others including their own family.

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 /HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

My patients need to feel safe seeking my help, and they also need to feel safe doing the things that help their mental health and that of their community. My patients need to go to the doctor without fear, they need to go to school or send their children to school without fear and they need to be able to go to their place of worship without fear of immigration enforcement activities at these locations.

I have treated patients who were reluctant to divulge the number of problems in their life causing the enormity of stress driving them to think about suicide. If a person cannot even speak to their doctor, or a therapist, about their problems, these problems will grow into a festering wound. As providers, we need to be able to communicate amongst ourselves to best help our mutual patients and we cannot do that efficiently without using the digital means at our fingertips, email and electronic health records. If we know these are being scrutinized with the sole purpose of immigration enforcement, this could influence the way we document patient encounters. As physicians, we only have the best interest of the patient in mind; our patient notes must be protected by the doctor-patient relationship.

I stand with immigrant communities and support the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

**Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.

**Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.

**Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.

**Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

Dr. Anna Spector, MD MPH

# **HB1431\_ArielleJuberg\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Arielle Juberg

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 8. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 neighbors by refusing to be complicit. It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to vote **in support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Arielle Juberg  
3411 Upton Road  
Baltimore, MD 21234  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **Testimony- HB 1431 Data Privacy, Favorable, UULM-M**

Uploaded by: Ashley Egan

Position: FAV



## Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

### Testimony IN SUPPORT OF HB 1431 State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

To: Delegate Luke Clippinger and Members of the Judiciary Committee  
From: Jim Caldiero, Lead Advocate, Immigration,  
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland  
Date: February 27, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony IN SUPPORT of **HB 1431, 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. **HB 1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities from individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

**UULM-MD c/o UU Church of Annapolis 333 Dubois Road Annapolis, MD 21401 410-266-8044,**

[www.uulmmd.org](http://www.uulmmd.org) [info@uulmmd.org](mailto:info@uulmmd.org) [www.facebook.com/uulmmd](https://www.facebook.com/uulmmd) [www.twitter.com/uulmmd](https://www.twitter.com/uulmmd)

This legislation is crucial. Not only will it protect the privacy of all Maryland residents, but it will foster trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. The Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland once again calls on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

My faith, which I share with more than 4000 Unitarian Universalists across the state, calls me to promote and affirm justice, equity and compassion in human relations, a value that is inherent in protecting the right of privacy and to be secure from unwarranted intrusions and searches as stated in Article 46 of the Maryland Declaration of Rights.

I encourage the committee to provide a favorable report on **HB 1431**.

Thank you.

*Jim Caldiero*

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<sup>1</sup>[2021, MGA HB23](#)

# **Testimony- Support -HB 1431 - Maryland Data Privac**

Uploaded by: Ashley Egan

Position: FAV



**Testimony IN SUPPORT OF HB 1431-  
State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law -  
Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

To: Delegate Luke Clippinger and Members of the Judiciary Committee  
From: Marilyn Carlisle  
Date: February 27, 2025

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

I would like to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of **HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**.

In my last 15 years of professional life, I worked in direct services to the Latino/-a population in Southeast Baltimore. People I worked with felt safe coming to our facilities as well as to their school-age children's schools and to health facilities in Baltimore. We did not ask their immigration status, as our goal was to help them raise healthy, educated children. However, 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 /HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented. This will help our neighbors feel safe in utilizing the services their families need, please give it a favorable report.

Thank you.

***Marilyn Carlisle***  
Baltimore  
District 43-A

**UULM-MD c/o UU Church of Annapolis 333 Dubois Road Annapolis, MD 21401 410-266-8044,**

[www.uulmmd.org](http://www.uulmmd.org) [info@uulmmd.org](mailto:info@uulmmd.org) [www.facebook.com/uulmmd](https://www.facebook.com/uulmmd) [www.Twitter.com/uulmmd](https://www.Twitter.com/uulmmd)

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act\_BH.pdf**

Uploaded by: Barbara Hauck

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 45. I am a voter, homeowner, and active community member. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Barbara Hauck**

**3420 Harford Road**

**Baltimore, MD 21218**

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Brytani Fraser

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary Committee,**

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore. We are also working in collaboration with CASA de Maryland. I am a resident of **District 45. I am testifying in support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

HB1431 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, HB1431 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.

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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Brytani Fraser**

**3211 Moravia rd. Baltimore, MD 21214**

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore



**Showing Up for Racial Justice**

# **MLU Support Letter - HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Carlos Orbe, Jr.

Position: FAV

**February 25, 2025**

**The Honorable Luke Clippinger**  
Chair, House Judiciary Committee  
Maryland General Assembly  
11 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**Support for House Bill 1431 – State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

Dear Chair Clippinger and Esteemed Committee Members,

At Maryland Latinos Unidos (MLU), we are dedicated to advocating for the rights and privacy of Latino and immigrant communities across our state. We have witnessed firsthand the fear and mistrust that arise when personal information is accessed and utilized for federal immigration enforcement purposes. House Bill 1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act, is a critical step toward safeguarding the personal data of all Maryland residents and ensuring that our state and local agencies are not complicit in actions that may lead to the unwarranted targeting of vulnerable populations.

This legislation mandates that law enforcement agencies and units of state or local government deny access to certain databases when the information is sought for enforcing federal immigration laws, except under specific circumstances. By restricting such access, HB 1431 aims to protect individuals' personal information from being used in ways that could result in family separations, deportations, and other adverse consequences. The bill also empowers the Attorney General to enforce these provisions and stipulates disciplinary actions for state employees who violate them.

For Maryland's Latino and immigrant communities, the enactment of HB 1431 would provide much-needed assurance that their personal data is protected from misuse. We have encountered numerous cases where individuals, fearing that their information might be shared with federal immigration authorities, avoid engaging with essential public services, including healthcare, education, and law enforcement. This reluctance not only jeopardizes their well-being but also undermines public safety and community trust.

By passing HB 1431, Maryland affirms its commitment to the privacy and dignity of all its residents. This legislation will foster an environment where individuals feel secure in accessing public services without the looming threat of their personal information being used against them. It also reinforces the principle that state and local resources should not be diverted to enforce federal immigration laws, especially in ways that compromise the rights and trust of our communities.

MLU stands ready to collaborate with state and local agencies to ensure the effective implementation of this act. Through community outreach and education, we will work to inform our constituents about their rights under this legislation and the protections it affords them.

We strongly urge the House Judiciary Committee to issue a favorable report on HB 1431. Enacting this bill is a decisive step toward upholding the privacy, trust, and well-being of all Maryland residents.

Sincerely,

Carlos Orbe, Jr.  
Communications and Public Affairs Specialist  
Maryland Latinos Unidos  
[corbejr@mdlatinosunidos.org](mailto:corbejr@mdlatinosunidos.org)



# **Hb1431\_PJC\_Favorable.pdf**

Uploaded by: Carolina Paul

Position: FAV



C. Matthew Hill  
Public Justice Center  
201 North Charles Street, Suite 1200  
Baltimore, Maryland 21201  
410-625-9409, 229  
hillm@publicjustice.org

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HB 1431: State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on  
Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)  
House Judiciary Committee, February 27, 2025  
Position: **Favorable**

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

The Public Justice Center strongly supports HB 1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act, and urges you to issue a favorable report.

The Public Justice Center (PJC) is a not-for-profit civil rights and anti-poverty legal services organization which seeks to advance social justice, economic and racial equity, and fundamental human rights in Maryland. The PJC provides advice and representation to low-income clients, advocates before legislatures and government agencies, and collaborates with community and advocacy organizations; we actively incorporate anti-racism and racial equity goals into our advocacy work. Our organization frequently represents and partners with immigrants and immigrant communities impacted by this legislation. For example, we represent tenants in eviction cases and cases seeking to hold their landlord accountable for dangerous conditions of disrepair, and we advance equitable access to school by representing students and families. We also represent workers whose employers are paying less than minimum wage, denying overtime benefits, or unfairly classifying them as contractors.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

**PJC's clients and Maryland communities will be irreparably harmed by ICE practices unless the General Assembly passes HB 1431.** Our renter-clients who are immigrants are already often terrified to come to court to defend their eviction cases or to hold their landlord accountable for dangerous conditions of disrepair. The most unscrupulous landlords proactively use the threat of immigration enforcement to suppress any complaints about the property, even when conditions like a collapsing roof or no heat pose a serious threat to the family within. Our renter-clients who

*The Public Justice Center is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and as such does not endorse or oppose any political party or candidate for elected office.*

are immigrants are concerned that if they participate in a court action, ICE could gain access to case information to facilitate deportation. Sometimes this fear that information will be shared with ICE extends even to reaching out for legal advice or representation to defend their cases. When renters do not defend court cases and are subsequently evicted, the entire state suffers. [Preventing eviction saves the state money by reducing homelessness and state-funded safety net costs](#) related to shelter, educating students experiencing homelessness, health care, foster care, decreased incarceration, and the economic impacts of increased employment and income stability. Additionally, when renter-immigrants are terrified of coming to court because their information could be shared with ICE, they are much less likely to hold their landlord accountable for dangerous conditions through a court action – which means that the whole neighborhood suffers from the blight and decay perpetuated by negligent property owners.

HB 1431 also provides important protections for clients of the PJC’s Education Stability Project, which advances equity in public education by combatting discipline practices that disproportionately push Black and brown children, and children with disabilities, out of school. The threat and fear of immigration enforcement also impedes equitable access to school and infringes upon the right of all Maryland children to receive a public education regardless of immigration status. HB 1431 is necessary to protect that right. In new [guidance on immigration enforcement actions at Maryland schools issued in 2025](#), the Maryland State Department of Education noted that various existing laws protect the confidentiality of student records and advised local school officials to cooperate with law enforcement and federal immigration authorities “in accordance with their school district policies and guidelines and in consultation with their attorneys.” This guidance is insufficient to protect students and assuage their credible fears, particularly given the current climate in Maryland schools. For instance, in a [February 2025 social media post tagging ICE](#), an Overlea High School teacher stated: “If you want the names to investigate families to find illegals, let me know in dm [direct message],” . . . “I’ll give names and school. All in Md.” HB 1431’s clear mandate of a valid warrant issued by a federal or state court, and penalties for violations, is vital to ensuring student privacy and protecting the right of all children to attend school in Maryland.

The Public Justice Center stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

*The Public Justice Center is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and as such does not endorse or oppose any political party or candidate for elected office.*

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. The Public Justice Center once again calls on this Committee to act and provide a **favorable report on HB 1431**.

# **CASA\_FAV\_HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cathryn Jackson

Position: FAV



## **CASA Testimony in SUPPORT of House Bill 1431**

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

February 19, 2025

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

CASA strongly supports House Bill 1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act. CASA is a national powerhouse organization building power and improving the quality of life in working-class: Black, Latino/a/e, Afro-descendent, Indigenous, and Immigrant communities.

With a membership of over 173,000 members, CASA creates change with its power-building model, blending human services, community organizing, and advocacy to serve the full spectrum of the needs, dreams, and aspirations of members. For nearly forty years, CASA has employed grassroots community organizing and by ensuring that families can access essential public benefits that provide basic necessities.

**The Maryland Data Privacy Act is a critical safeguard that builds on the progress made with the Driver Privacy Act of 2021 and addresses the gaps that still leave Marylanders vulnerable to warrantless surveillance and data exploitation.** It is essential that Maryland fully closes the loopholes that have enabled federal immigration enforcement to misuse state-collected data, undermining public trust and exposing our communities to harm.

For years, Maryland has worked to ensure that all residents—regardless of immigration status—can safely engage with government services. However, ICE’s warrantless access to state agency data has eroded public trust, making entire communities, including U.S. citizens, DACA recipients, lawful permanent residents (LPRs), and asylum seekers, fearful of engaging with essential services. The chilling effect of ICE’s data exploitation means that many families feel forced to live in the shadows, afraid to seek healthcare, enroll their children in school, or even report crimes to local law enforcement. This bill is critical to rebuilding that trust by ensuring that Maryland does not participate in the unjust targeting of its residents.

### **HB1431 Builds on the Driver Privacy Act of 2021**

In 2021, this legislature took a bold and necessary step by passing the Driver Privacy Act, which

restricted ICE's ability to access Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) data without a warrant. That law was a direct response to reports of ICE agents misusing MVA records to target, detain, and deport Marylanders—many of whom had obtained driver's licenses in good faith, trusting the state's promise of safety and privacy under the Maryland Highway Safety Act of 2013. ICE targeted several CASA members through its use of the MVA database.

That bill successfully set a precedent by limiting ICE's ability to exploit Maryland's systems, but it did not go far enough. ICE and other federal immigration enforcement agencies continue to bypass these protections by purchasing personal data from third-party brokers and exploiting loopholes in data-sharing agreements with state agencies.

### **ICE's Data Exploitation Erodes Public Trust in Government Services**

When Maryland residents interact with state agencies—whether to file taxes, seek medical care, report crimes, or access education and labor protections—they should not have to fear that their personal information will be misused by federal immigration authorities. **Allowing ICE unrestricted access to state-collected data undermines public trust and has a chilling effect on our entire community, discouraging people from engaging with critical government services that benefit all Marylanders.**

For example, immigrant families—including U.S. citizen children—may avoid Medicaid or public health services out of fear that their personal information will be used against them. This leads to lower vaccination rates, more untreated illnesses, and increased strain on emergency rooms. Similarly, workers fear reporting labor violations or unsafe conditions, emboldening bad actors who exploit immigrants for cheap labor, which drives down wages and protections for all workers. Even public safety is undermined when immigrants hesitate to call 911, report crimes, or cooperate with law enforcement, making our communities less safe for everyone. We see this in practice every day through the various CASA services we provide to immigrant families across Maryland.

The harm does not just fall on undocumented Marylanders—it extends to U.S. citizens, DACA recipients, TPS holders, lawful permanent residents, and mixed-status families who fear that any interaction with state agencies could put a loved one at risk. This fear-based deterrence has widespread economic and social consequences, pushing families deeper into poverty, worsening health disparities, and eroding trust in government institutions.

### **HB1431 Builds Public Trust**

House Bill 1431 ensures that all Marylanders—regardless of immigration status—can safely

engage with government services without fear of warrantless surveillance. Specifically, this bill:

- Stops ICE from accessing Marylanders' data without a valid warrant, ensuring due process protections are upheld.
- Prohibits the sale of personal data to third-party brokers, closing a loophole that federal agencies have exploited to circumvent constitutional safeguards.
- Mandates transparency and oversight, requiring state agencies to report how often federal immigration authorities request personal data and how many individuals are affected.

To be clear, HB 1431 does *not* prevent law enforcement from investigating crimes, sharing data when legally required, or complying with federal mandates. The bill simply ensures that federal agencies follow the same due process requirements that apply to any other law enforcement action. This is about fairness, constitutional rights, and protecting Marylanders from government overreach.

Maryland has already taken steps to protect its residents from warrantless federal surveillance, but loopholes remain that leave thousands of Maryland families vulnerable. The Driver Privacy Act of 2021 was a crucial first step, but the job is not finished. ICE and other federal agencies continue to exploit weak data privacy protections to target Marylanders without judicial oversight.

**For all the reasons listed above, CASA urges a favorable report on House Bill 1431.**

*Contact: Cathryn Paul, [cpaul@wearecasa.org](mailto:cpaul@wearecasa.org), 301-807-0788*



# **HB1431\_CindyBrach\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cecile Brach

Position: FAV

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**  
State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law -  
Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

**Below you will find my favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

The speed of technological advances has led to new dangers -- others can obtain data about us that we thought was private. There is general consensus that people should be able to control their own data and decide who sees it. However, the current administration has shown its blatant disregard for data privacy. We need to take immediate action to prevent unwanted intrusions on our privacy.

The current administration is attempting to wrest data out of state and local governments to further its attack on immigrants. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, ensures that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid judicial warrant is presented.

Although I am not an immigrant, I feel personally threatened by the administration's aggressive data grab. What makes us think that once they get access to immigrants' data they will stop at that? We need to hold the line for the sake of all Maryland residents.

This bill is not asking Maryland to take an extreme position. Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents, but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By making clear boundaries for federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. It is time once again for the legislature to take action.

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **HB1431\_Maryland\_Data\_Privacy\_Act\_MLC\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Cecilia Plante

Position: FAV



**TESTIMONY FOR HB1431**  
**State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law -**  
**Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Charkoudian

**Committee:** Judiciary

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative

**Coalition Person Submitting:** Aileen Alex, co-chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB1431 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of activists - individuals and grassroots groups in every district in the state. We are unpaid citizen lobbyists, and our Coalition supports well over 30,000 members.

Our members are appalled at the prospect of federal immigration authorities' unauthorized access and misuse of personal data collected by our state and local agencies and paid for by our tax dollars. This bill aims to protect the privacy of Maryland residents by restricting state and local agencies from providing access to databases, facilities, or buildings to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without proper legal authorization. The bill seeks to ensure that personal data is not used for federal immigration enforcement without a valid warrant issued by a federal or state court.

HB1431 mandates that state and local agencies deny access to personal information and photographs unless presented with a valid warrant issued by a federal or state court. It requires the Attorney General to enforce these provisions and outlines disciplinary actions for state employees who violate the act. The bill also prohibits the use of facial recognition technology by state or local agencies for federal immigration enforcement purposes without proper legal authorization.

By limiting access to personal data, the bill helps prevent the potential misuse of information and protects residents from unwarranted federal immigration enforcement actions. This is particularly significant for our immigrant communities, as it provides an additional layer of protection and promotes trust in state and local agencies. The bill ensures that personal data remains safeguarded, fostering a sense of security and privacy for all Maryland residents. By upholding these principles, HB1431 aligns with Maryland's commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of its residents.

The Maryland Legislative Coalition steadfastly supports this bill and similar initiatives that protect all Marylanders' privacy and security.

# **SEIU Local 500 Testimony in Support of HB 1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Christopher Cano

Position: FAV



Testimony - HB 1431, State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration  
Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

Favorable

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

Christopher C. Cano, MPA

Director of Political & Legislative Affairs on Behalf of SEIU Local 500

Honorable Chairman Clippinger & Members of the House Judiciary Committee:

SEIU Local 500, as one of Maryland's largest public sector unions representing over 23,000 workers, expresses our support for House Bill 1431, the **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, HB 1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

SEIU Local 500 stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.

2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

In 2021, the Maryland General Assembly passed the Maryland Driver Privacy Act to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. We once again ask you to strengthen those protections by passing HB 1431.

We ask you to pass this bill out of committee with a favorable report.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Christopher C. Cano, MPA  
Director of Political & Legislative Affairs  
SEIU Local 500

# **HB1431-FAV-DAG.pdf**

Uploaded by: Daniel Golombek

Position: FAV



## TESTIMONY FOR HB1431

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

*Presented to the Judiciary Committee*

February 27, 2025

#### **FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice chair Bartlett and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Daniel Golombek, and I am resident of district 11B. I am writing in strong support of HB1431 (Maryland Data Privacy Act).

I am appalled and extremely worried at the prospect of federal immigration authorities' unauthorized access and misuse of personal data collected by our state and local agencies and paid for by our tax dollars. This bill addresses these concerns as it aims to protect the privacy of Maryland residents by restricting state and local agencies from providing access to photographs, facial recognition technology, databases, facilities, or buildings to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without proper legal authorization. It will ensure that personal data is not used for federal immigration enforcement without a valid warrant issued by a federal or state court and requires the Maryland Attorney General to enforce its provisions.

By limiting access to personal data, the bill helps prevent the potential misuse of information and protects residents from unwarranted federal immigration enforcement actions. This is particularly significant for our immigrant communities, as it provides an additional layer of protection and promotes trust in state and local agencies. The bill ensures that personal data remains safeguarded, fostering a sense of security and privacy for all Maryland residents.

As HB1431 aligns with Maryland's commitment to protecting the rights and dignity of its residents, I support this bill and similar initiatives that protect all Marylanders' privacy and security and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.

Thank you.

Daniel Golombek  
51 Southwark Bridge Way, Lutherville, MD 21093  
dannygolombek@gmail.com

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.pdf**

Uploaded by: Daryl Yoder

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 44A. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Daryl Yoder  
309 Glenmore Ave.  
Catonsville, MD 21228  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **HB1431\_DavidFriedman\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: David Friedman

Position: FAV

February 27, 2025  
David M. Friedman  
Silver Spring, MD 20905

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1431- POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** David M. Friedman

**My name is David Friedman. I am a resident of Colesville/Cloverly in District 14. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB1431, State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

I am an active member of Oseh Shalom, a Jewish Reconstructionist congregation located in Laurel, MD. In Jewish tradition, our sacred texts insist that we turn our own experiences of outsiders in a foreign land, something my maternal grandparents experienced, into compassion for those experiencing the same today. In fact, care for “the stranger” is mentioned more times in the Torah than any other commandment. Thus, I am obligated to stand up for the safety of immigrants in my community.

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, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness. In 2021, the General Assembly took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data<sup>1</sup>. I call upon the House to take action again at this critical juncture. **I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1431.**

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<sup>1</sup> [2021.MGA HB23](#)

# **Maryland Data Privacy Act HB 1431 Testimony D Abra**

Uploaded by: Deborah Abramsky

Position: FAV

Date of Hearing: February 27th

**TESTIMONY ON [HB1431](#) - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

**TO:** Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** Deborah Abramsky, CNM, MPH; Mount Rainier, MD 20712

**OPENING: My name is Deborah Abramsky. I am a resident of District 47A, and am writing in strong support of [HB1431](#), the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

I am a Certified Nurse Midwife and resident of Mount Rainier, in Prince George's County. Mount Rainier has a diverse population and strong community spirit, which is why I have chosen to live here for over twenty years. I am a member of Prince George's Congregation Action Network and of the Upshur Neighborhood Alliance.

Throughout my career as a Nurse Midwife, I have provided care to medically indigent and immigrant communities. Over the last decade, I have worked at a Federally Qualified Health Center that serves people in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Some of the immigrant women to whom I provide prenatal, postpartum or gynecological care are undocumented, and have suffered extreme violence, trauma and uncertainty in their lives. With the current Administration calling for mass deportations, many of these women are fearful and anxious that they (or their family members) may be deported, even though they are law-abiding people who are working hard, sometimes at more than one job. They are just trying to support their families, live in relative safety and hope that their children will have better opportunities than they had, and be able to live secure and productive lives.

Since January 20, 2025, I have had women express to me that they are terrified of being deported, and even more so because this means they will be separated from their children, which is especially inhumane. They don't know what social, medical, or other institutional services they can trust. They are afraid that their medical, legal, or driving records can be used by ICE to deport them back to countries they left because of violence, threats of violence and poverty. This fear is accompanied by distrust in government institutions and services. This legislation would make sure that only a legal warrant grants ICE such access, and would mandate state departments to record instances of ICE access.

Government institutions and programs should be helping, not hurting immigrants who are trying to live secure and productive lives, and who deserve to be treated humanely and with

respect. Government data collection should be for the benefit of the population, and not be shared with those who would like to deport immigrants without legal warrants. As community members, immigrants deserve to be treated like anyone else; private information should stay private unless there is an attested legal need with a warrant. As a concerned health professional and PGCAN member, I support the Maryland Data Privacy Act and hope the Committee will rule favorably to protect undocumented and all immigrants' rights.

Deborah Abramsky, CNM, MPH



## **Late testimony**

Uploaded by: Devin Krol

Position: FAV

Devin Krol  
Baltimore, 21208

**Testimony in Support of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee  
February 27, 2025

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

My name is Devin Krol, I am a resident in Stevenson, District 11. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB1431, (Maryland Data Privacy Act). A little background about me, I was born in Baltimore County and as a I child attended Jewish day schools in the county. My father was born and raised in Baltimore City and attended schools in Northwest Baltimore and Pimlico. His parents were Holocaust survivors, David and Rose Krol; they settled in Baltimore City and then the county when they arrived as refugees. My grandparents met and got married in a displaced persons camp after the Holocaust while waiting for an American sponsor in order to come to here. My mother immigrated to Baltimore City from Argentina when she was just 6 years old and finally obtained her green card when she was a young adult, at around 20- quite the feat! As any immigrant to the USA will tell you it often takes years, even decades, to get a green card! My family background and Jewish education gave me a deep sense of justice and civil action, a need to repair the world called Tikkun Olam. This has led me to working towards immigrant justice; we must protect all members of our Maryland community regardless of their country of origin or documentation status.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

I stand with immigrant communities and support the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will limit access to databases and facilities, protect personal information, provide accountability and transparency, and ensure enforcement and penalties for state employees who fail to comply.

People are too scared to go to school, the hospital, or even to report a crime committed out of fear that they might have their information shared with ICE and subsequently be deported. Having any of our neighbors live in this constant fear is unacceptable, we must make a stand to

protect one another. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I am calling on this legislature to act. I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431. Thank you.

# **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Dominique Ashen

Position: FAV

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**  
State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions  
on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

My name is Dominique Ashen PhD, CRNP. I am a nurse practitioner providing preventive cardiovascular care for undocumented immigrants in Baltimore. I am pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

As a nurse practitioner I want to protect personal and medical data for my patients, which are private and sensitive. I want to ensure that this private and sensitive data cannot be used to target or detain my patients and separate them from their families.

If medical data is obtained by ICE, it could compromise my patient's safety, disrupt their medical services, and create fear in them so that they never come back to the clinic for the medical care they need and deserve as human beings.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I call on this legislature to act.

**I, Dominique Ashen PhD, CRNP, urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **DominiqueLee\_FAV\_HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Dominique Lee

Position: FAV

**Dominique Lee**

**202-823-9456**

**16040 English Oaks Ave, Bowie, MD 20716**

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

My name is Dominique Lee and today I am reaching out to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

As human beings, it is our natural instinct to protect ourselves. However, when we are in survival mode, our body takes over and we are more prone to making rash decisions. When we allow federal immigration officers to access personal data, we are sowing fear into our communities, especially among immigrant communities. When people are afraid, they are more likely to do whatever is necessary to keep themselves safe. Again, this is a natural part of who we are. If we want to keep our communities safe, we should not be allowing federal immigration officers access to sensitive data and facilities without a valid court-issued warrant.

The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I once again call on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

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<sup>1</sup>[2021. MGA HB23](#)

# **CentroSOL\_\_HB1431\_v2.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ellen Molino

Position: FAV





Center for Salud/Health and Opportunity for Latinos  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Center for Child and Community Health Research  
Mason F. Lord Bldg, Center Tower Suite 4200  
5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore MD 21224  
www.jhcentrosol.org | 410.550.1129 | centrosol@jhmi.edu

**HB 1431**

**Favorable**

TO: Delegate Luke H. Clippinger, Chair  
Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett, Vice Chair  
House Judiciary Committee Members

FROM: Centro SOL

DATE: February 19, 2025

**Centro SOL is pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

Centro SOL (Center for Health and Opportunity for Latinos at Johns Hopkins) is committed to promoting equity in health and providing high quality care to all of our patients including the large and growing Latino population in the State of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB1431. Note: This testimony does not necessarily represent the views of Johns Hopkins University.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act **HB 1431** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

The current culture of fear and mistrust of government agencies undermines our ability to conduct important research within the Latino community in Baltimore. If the immigrant community does not feel comfortable participating in our studies and trust that their information will remain confidential, the validity and effectiveness of our research will suffer greatly. It is essential that our research continue within this underserved community so that we can continue to adequately address the stark health disparities that exist.

Centro SOL stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.



Center for Salud/Health and Opportunity for Latinos  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Center for Child and Community Health Research  
Mason F. Lord Bldg, Center Tower Suite 4200  
5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore MD 21224  
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3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. **Centro SOL** once again calls on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**Centro SOL urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

### **Signatures:**

**Monica Guerrero Vazquez, MS, MPH**  
Executive Director, Centro SOL

**Sarah Polk, MD, ScM**  
Co-Director, Centro SOL  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins  
University School of Medicine

**Rheanna Platt MD, MPH**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral  
Sciences, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Johns  
Hopkins University/Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

**Rachel Aylor**  
Executive Director, National Alliance for Hispanic Families

**C. Nicholas Cuneo, MD, MPH**  
Medical Director, HEAL Refugee Health & Asylum Collaborative

**Ellen Molino, MBA**  
Research Program Manager, Centro SOL

**Mauricio Torres-Martinez, MD**

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# **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Eric Lopez

Position: FAV

## Testimony in **SUPPORT** of **HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Amica Center for Immigrant Rights (Amica Center) is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

The Amica Center is a non-profit organization that provides pro bono legal defense services to community members detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in Maryland and the DMV area. Our organization has specialized in detained removal defense legal services for the past 25 years. We are leaders in creating systemic changes in the immigration system for the benefit of vulnerable non-citizen community members.

We see every day the impact that ICE detention has on a person, their family and their community. It is a devastating, terrifying and fundamentally destabilizing moment for impacted individuals. ICE detention has ripple effects beyond the harm caused to the directly impacted person. It also has impacts on the emotional and financial stability of families whose spouse or parent is taken from them. Protecting the data privacy of our immigrant community members who are vulnerable to ICE arrest and deportation is critical to preventing family separation and potential expulsion from home and community.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law



Formerly known as CAIR Coalition

1 North Charles Street  
Suite 2305 | Baltimore, MD 21201

[www.amicacenter.org](http://www.amicacenter.org)

enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Amica Center clients would greatly benefit from this bill. It would be one safeguard in the face of expanded and aggressive ICE activities targeting Marylanders. It would foster an environment where people feel safe to engage our public institutions without fear of their identifying information and home address becoming accessible to ICE. In the face of a wave of federal policy changes targeting our immigrant communities, this bill would provide critical protections.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. Amica Center once again calls on this legislature to act.

**Amica Center urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

Sincerely,

Eric Lopez  
Deputy Program Director  
Amica Center for Immigrant Rights  
1 N. Charles Street, Suite 2305  
Baltimore, MD 21202

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.pdf**

Uploaded by: Erica Palmisano

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 12A. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Erica Palmisano  
5580 Vantage Point Rd, Apt 5, Columbia, MD 21044  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **Progressive MD\_FAV\_HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Erica Puentes

Position: FAV





## Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Progressive Maryland is pleased to offer a **favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**. Progressive Maryland is a member based organization led by and focused on working class, Black, and brown communities. Our grassroots advocacy focuses include racial justice and economic justice with the aim of building a more just and equitable Maryland. We have over 125,000 members and supporters across the state, with significant bases in Baltimore City, Prince George's, Montgomery, Frederick, Harford counties, and the Eastern Shore.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. Progressive Maryland once again calls on this legislature to act. Progressive Maryland **urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **SAC\_FAV\_HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Erica Puentes

Position: FAV

# Solidaridad Action Committee

*Of the Gamma Alpha Chapter of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Incorporada*

## Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

The Solidaridad Action Committee (SAC) of the Gamma Alpha Chapter (GA) of Hermandad de Sigma Iota Alpha, Incorporada (SIA) is pleased to offer a **favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**. SAC is composed of sisters of SIA, a Latina based but not Latina exclusive sorority with a large membership base throughout the state of Maryland. Our committee and organization represents many women including undergraduates currently studying at the University Maryland, College Park, Towson University, Johns Hopkins University, McDaniel College and alumni who work in various professions and industries across the state.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. The Solidaridad Action Committee once again calls on this legislature to act. SAC **urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **HB1431\_ MD Data Privacy Act\_FAV\_PFM.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Erinn Camp Mansour

Position: FAV

**Patapsco Friends Meeting (Quakers)**  
**SUPPORT: [HB1431](#) ([SB977](#)) *Maryland Data Privacy Act***  
**JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**  
February 27, 2025

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) is a community of faith based on an experience of a transforming power named many ways: the Inner Light, the Spirit of Christ, the Guide, the Living God, the Divine Presence. Quakers (or Friends) hold as the basis of this faith the belief that God endows each human being with a measure of the Divine Spirit. The gift of God's presence and the light of God's truth have been available to all people in all ages. Quaker beliefs are based on a Judeo-Christian heritage and adherence to the Inner Light, the Divine Seed, and that of God in everyone. Quakerism is, essentially, a religious fellowship based on common religious ideals and experiences, and it is without a binding creed. Quakers express this way of life in many ways, some traditional and some which reject traditional expression.

Quaker experience of the Divine affects what we do in our personal lives, what we believe and how we work for changes in the wider world. "Testimonies" are what Quakers call the ways we have found to live and act based on our beliefs. As Friends seek truth, peace, and harmony in the Light of that Spirit, our testimonies emerge. Each person must prayerfully seek individual guidance and must follow the Light found within.

The immanence of God implies that all persons are children of the Divine and brothers and sisters of one another. Each one has the capacity to discern spiritual truth and to hold direct communion with God. We also wish to affirm our belief that Quakerism is God's "big tent," politically. We welcome people with all sorts of political beliefs—Republicans, Democrats, conservatives, liberals, socialists, Libertarians, and Independents—to the Religious Society of Friends.

George Fox, a founding Quaker, encouraged Friends: "Let your lives speak." In every generation Quakers have devoted their lives to important social issues. The immigration enforcement crises that we are facing today challenge Friends as individuals and as communities to take decisive actions to protect f/Friends, Quakers and non-Quakers, immigrants and vulnerable people, no exceptions. Friends realize that they can do only a small part of what is needed, so they are working through individuals and other organizations to continue to put into action the testimonies of truth, integrity, equality, peace, community, and simplicity. These beliefs lead us to the importance of state-level advocacy in Maryland to support passing the Maryland Data Privacy Act, and other immigrant protections, during the 2025 General Assembly.

Immigrant families should be able to access critical government services without worrying that their information will be shared with federal immigration authorities. This bill blocks U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from obtaining warrantless access to state and local agency databases. It alters certain provisions of law to require a law enforcement agency, State or local government to deny access to certain databases, facilities, or buildings by certain individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law, under certain circumstances.

In 1682, Friend William Penn said, "True godliness doesn't turn men out of the world, but enables them to live better in it, and excites their endeavours to mend it...." The spiritual and social testimonies of Quakers, and statements of our Friends, lead us to support this proposed emergency legislation to protect our immigrant friends, our brothers and sisters in God's big tent.

Your Friends,  
Eileen and Richard Stanzione, Co-Clerks  
Patapsco Friends Meeting

# **HB1431\_ECM Testimony\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Erinn Camp Mansour

Position: FAV

## **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1431**

State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law -  
Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)  
Judiciary Committee  
February 27, 2025

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

I am part of an interfaith refugee ministry that helps resettled Afghan refugee families, friends who worked with the Americans and had to flee when U.S. forces left Afghanistan in 2021. Some of our families have adult children, husbands, fathers, and other family and friends who are still trapped there, or in neighboring countries, because they have not yet been approved to join them here. Changing policies here in the U.S. are making our new neighbors frightened for their families, many of whom remain in dangerous situations in or near their home country. Our interfaith refugee support volunteers are also afraid for them. Now that federal immigration policies have changed, and are changing almost daily, we are worried that our friends who made it here, to safety, will lose their legal immigration status and be ordered to go back. They could become undocumented immigrants.

Our friends arrived with various forms of protective legal approvals and documentation from our government. Because many of them worked with the Americans in Afghanistan, they were threatened and harassed by local authorities when we left. America promised to accept them. We promised they would be safe here, but it is unclear whether they will be allowed to stay or not. Military veterans who served in Afghanistan know better than most the spectrum of Afghan people who partnered with us there, including drivers, contractors, translators, lawyers, judges, officials, soldiers, teachers, doctors, and so many others. According to Shawn VanDiver, a military veteran and the president of #AfghanEvac, a nonprofit that helps people from Afghanistan resettle in America: "We made a promise to our Afghan allies, and fulfilling that promise is not just about policy — it's about honor and integrity."

Immigrants, those with current valid immigration documentation, and those without, have rights. Everyone residing in the U.S., citizen or not, has a 4th Amendment right to refuse access to their belongings, that should include personal and private data collected from them by state agencies supposedly to help them. It was given to a particular agency for a specific purpose with the assurance it would be kept private. Federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents should not have the opportunity or authority to access it without a warrant signed by a judge. We simply cannot allow ICE agents unwarranted access to our friends' personal and private data from schools, hospitals, social services, courts, and tax agencies.

Please uphold the integrity of our state agencies by protecting the data they have collected from our immigrant friends and issue a FAVORABLE report for HB1431. Thank you for your consideration of this important and emergency bill.

Sincerely,  
Erinn Camp Mansour, MPP UMD  
Christ Church Interfaith Refugee Ministry

# **Anne Arundel County \_FAV\_HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ethan Hunt

Position: FAV



February 27, 2025

**House Bill 1431**

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

**House Judiciary Committee**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

Anne Arundel County **SUPPORTS** House Bill 1431 – State and Local Agencies – Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law – Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act). This Bill requires State or local law enforcement agencies to deny individuals access to databases, including those operated by private vendors, for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.

All Marylanders are entitled to their constitutional right to privacy, regardless of their immigration status. When the federal government demands local law enforcement agencies to share access to their databases for immigration enforcement purposes, it exposes them to the liability of violating the Constitution and the core tenet of federalism. The Tenth Amendment reserves the powers not delegated to the federal government by the Constitution back to the States. The anticommandeering doctrine upheld by the Supreme Court in *Printz v. United States* protects the States from being compelled to enforce federal regulatory programs. Furthermore, the Fourth Amendment right protects individuals from unreasonable searches without probable cause, which includes their personal data and information.

State and local governments have a duty to protect and help their people, especially those of the most vulnerable populations. The government bears the responsibility of making its services available and accessible, and the people should feel safe and encouraged to reach out to their government for help. This relationship is built on a sacred trust, and that trust will be severely broken if local governments share their databases of personal information with others without a valid court-issued warrant present.

There will be many instances in which State and local law enforcement agencies will be coerced to share access to databases to enforce federal regulations. However, we cannot be complicit in the federal government's encroachment on individual constitutional rights. By expanding upon the Maryland Driver Privacy Act to personal data not just limited to driver's license information, this Bill provides a clear legal basis for Maryland State and local agencies when denying federal access to data without warrant and explicitly prohibits anyone from doing so. Accordingly, Anne Arundel County urges a **FAVORABLE** report on House Bill 1431.

# **FINAL MULLER - FAV\_HB1431 - Google Docs.pdf**

Uploaded by: Franca Muller

Position: FAV

## Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

My name is Franca Muller Paz, I am a Baltimore City Resident and member of the Baltimore Teachers Union. I am pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- 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, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

As a teacher, I believe it is critical that students and families know that their information across the state of Maryland is safe. Otherwise, we could see many families fearful of participating or giving their information to critical entities, like schools, hospitals, and more. We all have a right to privacy. We should know that when we give our information over for an official purpose, that information is safe, and that unless an official entity has a warrant, that information will not be released. Especially as a woman, I want to know that my sensitive personal information will be protected and not easily shared to anyone who does not need to see it.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data, once again I ask the legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

**Franca Muller Paz**

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<sup>1</sup>[2021, MGA HB23](#)

## **SB 977 - Data Privacy - ACLU Testimony (Feb 27, 20**

Uploaded by: Frank Patinella

Position: FAV



## Testimony for the House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

### HB 1431 State and Local Agencies Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law – Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

FRANK PATINELLA  
SENIOR POLICY ADVOCATE

AMERICAN CIVIL  
LIBERTIES UNION  
OF MARYLAND

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COREY STOTTLEMYER  
PRESIDENT

DANA VICKERS SHELLEY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ANDREW FREEMAN  
GENERAL COUNSEL

#### FAVORABLE

The ACLU of Maryland supports HB 1431, which seeks to prevent state or local law enforcement from sharing private information about Marylanders who are immigrants without a valid warrant issued by a federal or state court. It is important that the bill would apply to state contractors and grantees to the same extent as it applies to state and local agencies.

The harms of widespread immigration enforcement and mass deportation are well documented and include disrupting communities, ripping families apart, and causing widespread panic and fear. In fact, a 2022 report on 287(g) programs found that instead of increasing safety, local law enforcement colluding with ICE to enforce immigration law actually did the reverse, having a negative impact on public safety and public health.<sup>1</sup> Dragnet enforcement and local involvement creates an atmosphere where immigrant residents are less likely to report crimes or serve as witnesses, making everyone less safe. Maryland should not be expending our limited resources and capacity to be involved in these enforcement actions and instead focus on tactics that are shown to improve communities and public safety.

Maryland has long recognized the importance of creating a welcoming environment and supporting immigrant families and individuals in our community. In 2013, the state extended driving privileges to all Marylanders regardless of immigration status. In this national moment, when federal actors move to terrorize communities and unregulated agencies access sensitive data with complete disregard for privacy rights, it is our duty to protect the sensitive data being collected and maintained by the state.

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<sup>1</sup> License to Abuse: How ICE's 287(g) Program Empowers Racist Sheriffs and Civil Rights Violations. (2022). American Civil Liberties Union.  
<https://www.aclu.org/publications/license-abuse-how-ices-287g-program-empowers-racist-sheriffs>

Not only should Marylanders be able to control who has access to their data, but the threat of widespread dragnet immigration sweeps and the rhetoric around mass deportation at the national level compels us to call on local law enforcement to stop sharing personal information of residents with ICE. The ACLU-MD stands on our commitment to immigrants' rights and privacy rights. It is time to retake control of our data and ensure that Maryland communities do not collaborate with ICE.

For the foregoing reasons, the ACLU of Maryland urges a favorable report on HB 1431.

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.pdf**

Uploaded by: Holly Powell

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 46. I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
**Holly Powell**  
**2308 Cambridge Street**  
**Baltimore, Maryland 21224**  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore



# **Data Privacy 25FEB 2025.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jan Kleinman

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 46**. **I am descended from immigrants who came to the US with nothing and worked their way through life. They made productive contributions to society. I am testifying in support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**



Showing Up for Racial Justice

I am appalled to watch the current administration's treatment of immigrants. While people who have broken laws deserve consequences, our society must treat people politely. 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act**.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jan Kleinman  
250 President ST Unit 508  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

**Commented [Lindsay K1]:** If you're unaware, ICE agents usually don't have real warrants. They have a document they call a warrant, which is just a document written by someone at ICE directing that an individual be arrested. A constitutionally valid warrant requires a finding of probable cause for a search or arrest, and it is signed by a magistrate or judge- ie a neutral party has to review it.

# **HB1431\_Jeffrey Rubin\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jeffrey Rubin

Position: FAV

February 27, 2025

Jeffrey S. Rubin  
Potomac, MD 20854

**TESTIMONY ON HBI431 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**  
**State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law -**  
**Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

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

**FROM:** Jeffrey S. Rubin

**My name is Jeffrey S. Rubin. I am a resident of District 15. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HBI431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

Like many Marylanders, I live in an area that is home to many immigrants. They make valuable contributions to our community. Unfortunately, in recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HBI431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

I stand with immigrant communities and support the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness. As you did in 2021, I call on this legislature to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data.

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HBI431.**

# **EPIC-Testimony-MD-HB1431-Feb-2025.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jeramie Scott

Position: FAV

February 27, 2025

Maryland General Assembly  
House Judiciary Committee  
100 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

## Re: Testimony of EPIC in favor of House Bill 1431

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Committee Members,

EPIC writes to urge you to advance HB 1431, a bill that would require sensible restrictions on access to Marylanders' information for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law. Now, more than ever, there is a need to ensure Marylanders' information is protected from federal phishing expeditions and that federal access to their information is transparent and restricted to what is necessary and proper.

The Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) is a public interest research center established in 1994 to focus public attention on emerging privacy and civil liberties issues.<sup>1</sup> EPIC has long advocated for proper limits and restrictions on access and disclosure of information held by government agencies.<sup>2</sup>

HB 1431 builds on existing Maryland law, which already restricts the disclosure of driver's license information to federal immigration enforcement agencies.<sup>3</sup> This bill would extend protections to all of Marylanders' information held by Maryland state agencies and create consistency with how state agencies address requests from federal immigration enforcement agencies. HB 1431 is built on several important aspects of privacy:

- **Transparency:** HB 1431 requires an annual report to detail the number and nature of the requests as well as whether the requests were granted or denied, ensuring Marylanders know who is attempting to access their information and why.
- **Authority:** HB 1431 only grants the authority to access Marylander's information for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law when a valid warrant is presented, ensuring that there is a good reason to access the information and preventing phishing expeditions.

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<sup>1</sup> EPIC, *About EPIC*, <https://epic.org/epic/about.html>.

<sup>2</sup> See Press Release, EPIC, *EPIC, Democracy Forward, and Federal Worker Sue DOGE for Illegal Seizure of Personal Data From Treasury, Personnel Systems* (Feb. 10, 2025), <https://epic.org/press-release-epic-democracy-forward-and-federal-worker-sue-doge-for-illegal-seizure-of-personal-data-from-treasury-personnel-systems/>; EPIC, *EPIC v. Commerce (Census Privacy)*, <https://epic.org/documents/epic-v-commerce-census-privacy/>; EPIC, *EPIC v. Presidential Election Commission*, <https://epic.org/documents/epic-v-presidential-election-commission/>.

<sup>3</sup> Maryland Driver Privacy Act, <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgaweb/Legislation/Details/HB0023?ys=2021RS>.

- **Specification:** HB 1431 requires any individual seeking access to Marylanders' information for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law to specify the record to be accessed.
- **Accountability:** HB 1431 not only requires a warrant for federal immigration law enforcement but also requires individuals seeking access for other purposes to provide a statement, under penalty of perjury, that they are not seeking access to enforce federal immigration law.
- **Enforcement:** HB 1431 makes clear there will be consequences for violations, including loss of employment, and empowers the state Attorney General to enforce the requirements of the bill with civil penalties.

We urge the Committee to advance HB 1431 and provide Marylanders with meaningful privacy protections from unwarranted access to their information. HB 1431 ensures Marylanders are not afraid to interact with their state government. Whether information is provided to file states taxes or to come forward as a witness to a crime, Marylanders must know that their state government will protect their information and be good stewards of the data they collect.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, please reach out with any questions to EPIC Senior Counsel Jeramie D. Scott at [scott@epic.org](mailto:scott@epic.org).

Sincerely,

*Jeramie D. Scott*

Jeramie D. Scott  
EPIC Senior Counsel

# **CAN Testimony in support of HB1431 (Maryland Data**

Uploaded by: Jerry Kickenson

Position: FAV





**faith. love. liberation.**  
**fe. amor. Liberación.**

**Testimony in support of House Bill 1431**

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

To: Hon. Luke Clippinger, chair, and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

From: Jerry Kickenson, Treasurer and Montgomery County Coordinator, Congregation Action Network

Date: February 25, 2025

We are writing in **support of House Bill 1431, State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**, on behalf of the Congregation Action Network (CAN). The Congregation Action Network is a network of faith communities in Washington, DC, and the Maryland and Virginia suburbs acting in solidarity to end detention, deportation, profiling, and criminalization of immigrants and demanding and upholding justice, dignity, safety, and family unity. With congregations and members throughout the capital area, including congregations with hundreds of members in Montgomery and Prince George's counties, we live our faith in advocacy for and solidarity with our immigrant neighbors.

As people of faith committed to justice and compassion for immigrants, we adhere to the sacred texts of most major faiths that call for welcoming the stranger and treating each other with love, dignity, respect, and compassion. We believe in liberation and that immigrant families should be treated fairly and have the same protections as all Maryland residents.

HB1431 will provide data privacy protections to all Maryland residents for data held by government agencies, equivalent to that already provided for Motor Vehicle Administration data. SB977 would not interfere with truly criminal investigations, allowing for disclosure when a valid judicial warrant is presented. Immigrant families should be able to access all government services without worrying that their information will be freely shared with federal immigration authorities.

We respectfully urge you to reach a **favorable** report for HB1431. It will provide privacy protections to all residents of Maryland. It is the right thing to do.

Respectfully yours,

Jerry Kickenson

Treasurer and Montgomery County Coordinator

Congregation Action Network

Silver Spring, MD

# **HB 1431\_Jo Shifrin\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Jo Shifrin

Position: FAV

Date of Hearing: February 27, 2025

Jo Shifrin

Bethesda, MD 20817

**TESTIMONY ON HB 1431 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** Jo Shifrin

**OPENING: My name is Jo Shifrin. I am a resident of District 16. I am submitting this testimony in strong support of HB 1431, State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

My family came from Russia, Ukraine, and Poland about 100 years ago. As Jews, they suffered from all kinds of oppression and discrimination. One reason they were happy coming to the U.S. is that we have a Constitution that protects all of our residents.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within the immigrant community. This has led to an erosion of trust in all levels of government, Federal, State and local. With the recent election of Donald Trump, and threats of mass deportation, immigrants are worried that their personal data could be used by ICE to identify them and put them in harm's way.

Although the 4th Amendment to the Constitution protects people who reside in the US from illegal search and seizure, and the courts—including the Supreme Court—have held that access to private data (including electronic data) is prohibited without a warrant, immigrants have a right to be fearful. In the first 3 weeks of the Trump Administration, the executive branch of the Federal government has repeatedly overstepped its powers.

HB1431 will stop ICE from accessing state databases, records, or information without a valid warrant. It will also require that state agencies document all ICE access requests and report this to the State's Attorney General and the General Assembly. These steps will ensure that state data is not misused, and that there is transparency and accountability in compliance with law.

It is my hope that passage of this bill will protect Marylanders' privacy by shielding sensitive data from unwarranted federal surveillance and misuse, and build trust between immigrant communities and the agencies that serve them. **I respectfully urge the Committee to return a favorable report on HB 1431.**

## **Health Care for the Homeless - HB 1431 FAV - Data**

Uploaded by: Joanna Diamond

Position: FAV



## HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS TESTIMONY

### FAVORABLE

#### **HB 1431 – State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**House Judiciary Committee**

**February 27, 2025**

Health Care for the Homeless supports HB 1431, which seeks to require a law enforcement agency or a unit of State or local government to deny access to certain databases, facilities, or buildings by certain individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law.

Health Care for the Homeless is a federally qualified health center, providing comprehensive health care and housing services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and housing instability in the Baltimore area. We provide services to everyone, regardless of immigration status, and we do not collect immigration status information, both as a matter of law and as a matter of values. We know, anecdotally, that our clients have a whole range of immigration statuses. We also know that many clients we serve also rely on critical public benefits and social safety programs for their health and safety. The efficacy of services that Health Care for the Homeless provides will be compromised if access to these other services clients rely on is compromised. Allowing access to clients' sensitive information will undoubtedly compromise those services because it will have a significant chilling effect because of the fear of deportation and other immigration proceedings. This chilling effect will go far beyond the public services that people receive at the locations and entities contemplated by this bill – it will also have a chilling effect at the other places they receive services, including Health Care for the Homeless. This will have a significant impact on the health and well-being of full communities who forgo these critical services due to understandable fear for what will happen to them and their families.

Immigrant families should be able to access critical government services without worrying that their information will be shared with federal immigration authorities. We need this bill so that immigration enforcement is limited from obtaining warrantless access to state and local agency databases.

We urge a favorable report.

*Health Care for the Homeless is Maryland's leading provider of integrated health services and supportive housing for individuals and families experiencing homelessness. We deliver medical care, mental health services, state-certified addiction treatment, dental care, social services, housing support services, and housing for over 11,000 Marylanders annually at sites in Baltimore City and Baltimore County.*

*Our Vision: Everyone is healthy and has a safe home in a just and respectful community.*

*Our Mission: We work to end homelessness through racially equitable health care, housing and advocacy in partnership with those of us who have experienced it.*

*For more information, visit [www.hchmd.org](http://www.hchmd.org).*

# **HB 1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement o**

Uploaded by: Joanne Antoine

Position: FAV

February , 2025

**Testimony on HB 1431**  
**State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to**  
**Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**  
**Judiciary Committee**

**Position:** Favorable

Common Cause Maryland supports HB 1431, which would establish protections for sensitive information as Marylanders, specifically members of immigrant communities, access critical government services. This legislation blocks the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from obtaining warrantless access to state and local agency databases during a time when the Trump administration is leading a mass deportation campaign meant to break up families, violate people's civil rights, and terrorize entire communities out of taking part in civic life.

Common Cause Maryland believes that immigrants are integral to this nation's foundation and success, contributing to its standing as the longest-lasting and most successful democracy in history. Yet, by forcing immigrants into the shadows, the Trump administration threatens to undermine the multiracial democracy and safe, thriving neighborhoods we all deserve. Disclosure of these individuals' personal information only helps the Administration accomplish its goals in Maryland.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act (HB 1431) takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies and law enforcement entities are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities without a valid warrant. Common Cause Maryland stands with immigrant communities and supports HB 1431 because it will:

- **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
- **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
- **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
- **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

These protections will help to limit potential raids that will silence voices not only at the ballot box but also in our own neighborhoods, which hurts all Marylanders. We all lose when members of our communities are too afraid to engage with the government, hold elected officials accountable, and access the services they need.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. Immigrants have made this country the oldest and most successful democracy, and we should ensure that this continues by clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state.

We urge a favorable report on HB 1431.





# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act - Support - Joh**

Uploaded by: John Ford

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary Committee,**

This testimony is written in collaboration with 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. I am also writing in collaboration with CASA de Maryland. I am a resident and community association board member of **District 46 and the ZIP code 21224 – one of the most immigrant-dependent places in the State. Immigrants, especially from Central America, are the backbone of my community. I am testifying in support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

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.

HB1431 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 judicial warrant, signed by a judge, authorizing their access to private information. In addition, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**John Preston Ford**

**529 S East Ave, Baltimore, MD 21224**

# **PGCMA Favorable SUPPORT House Bill 1431 (1).pdf**

Uploaded by: Johntel Greene

Position: FAV



# Prince George's County Municipal Association

*An Association of 27 Municipalities*



## Testimony Favorable SUPPORT House Bill 1431

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

Dear Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Barlett, and member of the Committee,

The Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) writes on behalf of the 27 municipalities that collectively represent more than 955,000 residents, to share our strong support for House Bill 1431 **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 our communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HB1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Prince George's Municipal Association (PGCMA) stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. PGCMA once again calls on this legislature to act ([2021, MGA HB23](#)). **Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) urges the committee to provide a Favorable Report on House Bill 1431.**

Sincerely,

*Celina R. Benitez*

Mayor Celina R. Benitez, President, Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA)

Prince George's County Municipal Association (PGCMA) members: Berwyn Heights, Bladensburg, Bowie, Brentwood, Capitol Heights, Cheverly, College Park, Colmar Manor, Cottage City, District Heights, Eagle Harbor, Edmonston, Fairmount Heights, Forest Heights, Glenarden, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Landover Hills, Laurel, Morningside, Mount Rainier, New Carrollton, North Brentwood, Riverdale Park, Seat Pleasant, University Park, and Upper Marlboro.

# **HB 1431\_MD Center on Economic Policy\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kali Schumitz

Position: FAV



FEBRUARY 27, 2025

# Maryland Should Ensure that Immigrants' Data is Secure and Privacy is Guaranteed

## Position Statement Supporting House Bill 1431

*Given before the House Judiciary Committee*

Like all Marylanders, immigrants should feel confident in the privacy and security of the data they share with state and local agencies. They must be assured that unless there is a valid court-issued warrant, their data cannot be shared by law enforcement agencies or state and local government for the purposes of immigration enforcement.

**The Maryland Center on Economic Policy supports HB 1431 because it will ensure that immigrants data, like that of all Marylanders, is secured and help guarantee their privacy.**

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

**The Maryland Center on Economic Policy supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:**

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

Further, a;; Marylanders benefit from state policies that make our state a welcoming place for immigrants. Just over 1 million immigrants reside in Maryland, working sectors across our state's economy. About 36 percent of Main Street business owners in Maryland are immigrants, operating storefront shops that help keep downtown areas vibrant. About 21 percent of Maryland's workers are immigrants including 33 percent of child care workers, 29 percent of registered nurses and 27 percent of software developers.

Immigrant workers and business owners generate \$85 billion of economic output in Maryland. In fact, when immigrants move to Maryland the economy grows and this doesn't mean fewer jobs, it means more jobs, more consumers, more workers and more business owners.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. **The Maryland Center on Economic Policy**, once again calls on the General Assembly to act to protect the private data of all Marylanders.

The Maryland Center on Economic Policy urges **the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **HB1431 D4CC fav.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kate Sugarman

Position: FAV





Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 977/HB 1431

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Doctors for Camp Closure, Maryland chapter is pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 977 /HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).

Doctors for Camp Closure is a national organization. Our Maryland chapter is our local chapter. Our mission is to advocate for justice and humane treatment of immigrants. As doctors we know that there is no amount of time in an ICE jail which is healthy for our patients. We know that healthy families are families that can remain together. We know how critical it is for our families that family members not be deported.

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 /HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Our immigrant patients must have their privacy protected. This legislation is critical for our patients' welfare.

If our patients' privacy is not protected then they are at a much higher risk of deportation. There is nothing that is worse for our patients' health than the fear of and then actual deportation. Once a family member is deported, the family members suffer physically and psychologically. Children lose their ability to thrive and function in school. They regress emotionally which then takes a physical toll on their bodies. Families lose a wage earner so they suffer economically.

Doctors for Camp Closure Maryland chapter stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

**Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.

**Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.

**Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.

**Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. Doctor for Camp Closure Maryland chapter once again calls on this legislature to act.

Doctors for Camp Closure, Maryland chapter urges the committee to provide a favorable report on SB 977/HB 1431.

Kate Sugarman, MD  
Maryland co-director Doctor for Camp Closure  
11909 Enid Drive  
Potomac MD 20854

# **Testimony in Support of HB1431\_Blaha\_SURJ.pdf**

Uploaded by: Katherine Blaha

Position: FAV

Tuesday, February 25, 2025



## Showing Up for Racial Justice

Dear Members of the Judiciary Committee,

I am submitting this testimony as a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Baltimore, a group of individuals working to mobilize white people in 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, an immigration advocacy and assistance organization based in Maryland. I am a resident of Baltimore City and District 41. I am testifying in **support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

President Trump's cruel, racist, and xenophobic attacks on immigrants has continued in his second administration. It is incumbent upon Maryland to protect the people that he is dedicated to demonizing: our friends, family members, and neighbors, hard-working people who help build our communities. They don't deserve to live in fear.

In Maryland and nationwide, federal immigration authorities have a history of abusing state-held databases containing personal information in order to help them target immigrants. In Maryland, after Maryland allowed undocumented immigrants to apply for driver's licenses in 2013, ICE began using MVA data in this way. This is a vicious and counterproductive attempt to force immigrants to live in the shadows when they would otherwise readily adhere to local laws and regulations that keep everyone safe.

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 terrorize, imprison, and deport as many immigrants as possible, we must act to close this loophole in our data privacy.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 *real* warrant signed by a judge. While this does not provide complete protection to people attempting to abide by local laws and retain access to crucial resources and services, it at least makes it more difficult for ICE to target local and state government facilities for raids/general enforcement actions.

I do not want Maryland to use our resources to help President Trump conduct his racist, cruel anti-immigrant campaign. We must stand up for our friends, family, and neighbors by refusing to be complicit in his xenophobia. 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Katherine Blaha  
5706 Cross Country Blvd  
Baltimore, MD 21209  
Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) Baltimore

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.docx (1).pdf**

Uploaded by: Katherine Grasso

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary Committee**,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore. We are also working in collaboration with CASA de Maryland. I am a resident of District 43A. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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, important members of our communities who 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Grasso  
2507 N. Howard St., Apt 415  
Baltimore, MD 21218  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **HB1431\_FAV\_Maryland Just Power Alliance.pdf**

Uploaded by: Katie Wenger

Position: FAV





### **Support the Maryland Data Privacy Act (HB1431)**

Dear Members of the House Judiciary Committee,

We are the [Maryland Just Power Alliance](#), a coalition of 3 non-partisan community power organizations: [Anne Arundel Connecting Together](#) (ACT), [Action in Montgomery](#) (AIM), and [People Acting Together in Howard](#) (PATH), representing tens of thousands of Maryland residents. We organize with people in congregations, schools, and neighborhoods to build power for policies that make our communities more fair and livable for everyone. We are asking you to support the Maryland Data Privacy Act (HB1431) when it is considered by the Judiciary Committee.

The Maryland Data Privacy Act is crucial to protect residents' trust in government so they can access much-needed services. It is essential that this bill prevents ICE from warrantless access to people's sensitive data in state and local agency databases. Residents need to be able to access crucial resources like healthcare without the fear that their information will be shared with federal immigration enforcement. We call on you to pass this bill out of your committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

# **2025 - HB 1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.pdf**

Uploaded by: Ken Phelps Jr

Position: FAV



# THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1431:

### State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information

#### (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

#### **\*\*FAVORABLE\*\***

**TO:** Del. Luke Clippinger, Chair, Del. J. Sandy Bartlett, Vice Chair and the members of the House Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** Rev. Kenneth O. Phelps, Jr., Co-Chair, Maryland Episcopal Public Policy Network, Diocese of Maryland

**DATE:** February 19, 2025

As Christians, our faith is shaped by the biblical story of people whom God led into foreign countries to escape oppression. Exodus tells us the story of the ancient Israelites escaping slavery in the land of Egypt and wandering in the wilderness without a home. In Leviticus, God commands that we remember this sojourn as part of our own story of faith: “When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.”

Paul tells us in Ephesians, we are no longer aliens. Christ Jesus has made us citizens with the saints and members of the household of God. As we read in 1 Peter, we have received God’s mercy, and we must demonstrate this sacrificial love in our lives and deeds. We are called to transcend the earthly distinctions made among us by the leaders of this world. We must proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is promised to the persecuted and answer Christ’s call to welcome the stranger among us.

This vision of God’s kingdom, this new reality, is the one to which we Christians are pledged in our baptism above any political preference or policy, and to which our church must bear witness through word and deed. This sacred call shapes both our churchwide commitment to stand with migrants and the ministries of congregations across our church who serve vulnerable immigrants and refugees in their communities.

Since the late 19th century, The Episcopal Church has followed this call by welcoming immigrants and refugees to the United States. Across our church, migrants



# THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF MARYLAND

are members of the Body of Christ and part of our congregations and communities, and our common life is richer thanks to their contributions.

But, in recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within those very immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act **HB 1431** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. The Episcopal Diocese of Maryland once again calls on this legislature to act.

**The Diocese of Maryland requests a favorable report.**

# **CASA - Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Kevin James

Position: FAV

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**  
State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on  
Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Kevin James is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

At this very moment ICE agents are racially profiling Latin American immigrant neighborhoods and detaining people only to find out that they're citizens. If racial profiling violates due process but agents are doing it anyway, then it stands to reason they'll abuse access to private data unless it's protected.

Part of the reason warrants exist is to ensure people are protected by due process. Most of this country's history is replete with violations of due process for Black people and other people of color. As the late historian Howard Zinn said, "This has been a slave owning country longer than it's been a free one." Given this history, protections to ensure due process is protected must be implemented.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I, once again, call on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

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<sup>1</sup>[2021. MGA HB23](#)

# **HB1431.FAV.LauraAtwood.pdf**

Uploaded by: Laura Atwood

Position: FAV

## **TESTIMONY ON HBI431 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

Hearing date: February 27, 2025

From: Laura Atwood, Silver Spring, MD

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

My name is Laura Atwood. I am a resident of District 20, and I am submitting this testimony in support of HBI431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.

At the federal level, these are serious times. I hope that we have all studied history and contemporary society enough to recognize the scapegoating of entire communities—and that we also recognize the almost unthinkable cruelty that individuals and governments are capable of.

Maryland needs to join other states, with full courage and resoluteness, in truly supporting its residents by resisting the federal government's immigration devastation. This includes supporting the Data Privacy Act, which would limit federal access to state and local databases that contain sensitive personal information.

I support this and other immigration bills because of my belief in the deep inherent worth of every individual, and in the inherent interconnectedness of all of us. More specifically, I am a physical therapist, a parent of young adult children, and a community member who has lived internationally and has long been involved with people who've immigrated to this country under a variety of circumstances. People who immigrated enrich my personal life (I've been married to one for 28 years!), my workplace and social circles, and my community.

Every individual who is detained and/or deported is a human being with dignity, deserving of compassion and of justice under constitutional, international, and moral law. And every individual who is detained and/or deported is part of a larger community—often including children and vulnerable adults.

As I was writing this testimony, a friend across the county who works for HUD with housing vouchers texted me: "At work, we know that mixed-status families will lose their full housing vouchers, which will be devastating. I also know HUD can give ICE each family member's immigration information and home address. This can't be changed, but how can these families be warned?" Because HUD is federal, she's correct. But we can, and must, change this possibility with state and local databases.

Recently while my mind was spinning with immigration-related news, I stopped off at my local pupusería because I'd heard that many local restaurants are struggling, plus their pupusas are delicious. A few families were there just enjoying life, as things should be. The father of one clearly tired toddler was trying to leave the table to go to the bathroom. The kid was crying, not wanting the father to go; he scooped her up and hugged and danced with her, turned the now-calm kid over to the mother, and left for the bathroom. All an everyday parenting event. But my spinning mind went to the thought: What if in a different situation, a kid was crying and the parent was unable to return?

How much lifelong trauma are we as a society inflicting—by letting ICE create so much loss, and also realistic fear of this loss?? And how could we not do everything in our power to prevent this?

The Data Privacy Act would make it harder for ICE and other federal agencies to find and misuse personal data to carry out a destructive and hateful agenda. **I therefore respectfully urge this committee to return a (favorable/favorable with amendments/unfavorable) report on HBI431.** Thank you.



# **HB1431 Testimony .pdf**

Uploaded by: Laura Bonkosky

Position: FAV

This is to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).

I live in Greenbelt, Maryland, where over 4,000 residents are immigrants without documentation. These are my neighbors, who contribute economically, socially, and culturally to our community. They deserve respect and protection from those would see them as problems rather than assets.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

My immigrant neighbors need reassurance from the State of Maryland that they are valued and respected.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I once again calls on this legislature to act.

I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.

Laura Bonkosky  
19 Ridge Rd, Unit T  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

# **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431-Indivisible Howard**

Uploaded by: Laurie Liskin

Position: FAV



Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431  
State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on  
Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Indivisible Howard County is pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of **HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**.

Established in 2017 as part of the national Indivisible movement, Indivisible Howard County has more than 900 members focused on making our state safe, equitable, and welcoming for all residents.

Everyone in Maryland, undocumented immigrants included, is entitled to privacy. But our data privacy protections have come under serious threat with increasing federal efforts to use public sources to identify, detain, and deport immigrants.

In 2021 the Maryland Legislature passed the Driver Privacy Act blocking ICE from access to MVA data without a judicial warrant. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HB 1431 is designed to safeguard personal data in other public databases.

Indivisible Howard County stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

- **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities and Protect personal information** without a valid court-issued warrant
- **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly
- **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties for noncompliance.**

This legislation benefits all Marylanders. It will protect the privacy of every resident and foster trust between immigrant communities and public institutions.

Indivisible Howard County **urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **hb1431 immigrant data privacy JUD 2-27-2025.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lee Hudson

Position: FAV



**Delaware-Maryland Synod**  
**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

Testimony Prepared for the  
Judiciary Committee  
on  
**House Bill 1431**  
February 27, 2025  
Position: **Favorable**

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify about justice and human rights. I am Lee Hudson, assistant to the bishop for public policy in the Delaware-Maryland Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, a faith community with three synods in every part of the State.

Our faith tradition has taken up the cause of human movement with an understanding of human worth and nascent rights. Displaced persons in the United States do have rights under U.S. law and we have previously testified that they should be advised of and understand the rights they have, and that those should not be presumptively nor surreptitiously abridged. We support **House Bill 1431** as we have supported other proposals for credibly protecting those rights.

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has articulated as universal this example of sacred human dignity: *Humans are (created as) civic (i.e., communal) beings and have the right to equal access and participation in legal, civic and political decisions affecting them* (“Human Rights,” ELCA social message, 2017, pg. 6).

This is not less true for refugees, exiles, or displaced persons than citizens. In a social message on “Immigration” (ELCA, 1998, updated 2018) our understanding of and commitment to human rights for those without documents includes *reasonable access* (pg. 8) to lawful residence and citizenship. People without documents require legal apparatus to acquire legal status. They ought not be surveilled without cause. We note also that there are always children among those without documents, and that children cannot possibly navigate a legal process absent assistance and advocates.

**House Bill 1431** provides a standard of privacy protection that ought to apply to everyone. Information gathered about us for commercial profit or unauthorized surveillance, and we encourage your favorable report.

Lee Hudson

# **CAB HB1431 FAV MGA25.pdf**

Uploaded by: Leslie Frey

Position: FAV



**Montgomery County Community Action Board Testimony**  
**HB1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access**  
**to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**  
**February 27, 2025**  
**SUPPORT**

TO: The Honorable Luke Clippinger, Chair; The Honorable J. Sandy Bartlett, Vice Chair; and Members of the Judiciary Committee  
FROM: Dr. Jeffery Johnson, Chair, Montgomery County Community Action Board

The Montgomery County Community Action Board, the County's local, state, and federally designated anti-poverty group, supports HB1431. This bill would deny access to databases maintained by law enforcement and other state and local entities to any individual who is or appears to be accessing the database for immigration enforcement purposes, unless the individual has a warrant and clearly identifies the record they would like to access.

As the governing body for the Montgomery County Community Action Agency, we continue to hear about the terrible local impacts of immigration policies and proposals established at the federal level. Many of the residents served by the Takoma-East Silver Spring (TESS) Community Action Center, Navigation Team, and the agency's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program are living in fear. Too many of our neighbors are terrified to seek critical services they desperately need because of concerns about their immigration status. At a recent SNAP clinic for example, it was reported that every resident in attendance expressed concerns about what would happen to their personal information if they applied for food assistance. Policies, including the ones proposed in HB1431, can help to alleviate some of the fears people are experiencing and increase confidence in government entities. The alternative is that families could go without food assistance, housing support, child care assistance, and other services they need.

In these uncertain times, our board appreciates the General Assembly's efforts to explore state-level policies that can offer added safety and a better sense of security for our neighbors. The Community Action Board stands ready to support legislation that will help some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

The Montgomery County Community Action Board strongly supports HB1431 and asks for the Committee's favorable report.



# **eactestimony2025.HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Leslie Margolis

Position: FAV

# Education Advocacy Coalition for Students with Disabilities

## HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

### **HOUSE BILL 1431: State and Local Agencies—Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law— Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**DATE: FEBRUARY 27, 2025**

#### **POSITION: SUPPORT**

The Education Advocacy Coalition for Students with Disabilities (EAC), a coalition of nearly 50 organizations and individuals concerned with education policy for students with disabilities in Maryland, strongly supports House Bill 1431, which would restrict any individual who is, or who appears to be, seeking access to a database for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law unless the individual presents a valid warrant issued by a federal or Maryland state court and clearly identifies the record or information to be accessed. As attorneys, advocates and consultants working with families whose children have disabilities, EAC members are greatly concerned about the risk to children with disabilities if sensitive information about them is released to immigration officials. Although the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) governs the release of information by schools, FERPA does permit schools to release directory information; directory information includes such details as a student's name and address and date and place of birth. By restricting access to information without presentation of a court order, House Bill 1431 closes a hole that could otherwise be devastating to children and their families who are worried about being identified to immigration officers seeking to detain and deport them.

Additionally, children with disabilities, like all children, have a right under *Plyler v. Doe*, 457 U.S. 202 (1982) to attend school without regard to their immigration status. It is especially important for children with disabilities to have unthreatened access to school in order to obtain their legally-guaranteed special education and related services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Act. House Bill 1431 would enable schools to keep students as safe as possible and make it possible for parents to continue to participate in meetings and school events.

For these reasons, the EAC strongly supports House Bill 1431.

Contact: Leslie Seid Margolis, [lesliem@disabilityrightsmd.org](mailto:lesliem@disabilityrightsmd.org) or 443-692-2505

Education Advocacy Coalition Testimony: House Bill 1431  
February 27, 2025  
Page Two

Respectfully submitted,

Selene Almazan, Selene Almazan Law, LLC  
Rene Averitt-Sanzone, The Parents' Place of Maryland  
Beth Benevides, The Autism Society of Maryland  
Ellen A. Callegary, Attorney (Retired)  
Stephanie Carr, S.L. Carr Education Consultants, LLC  
Rich Ceruolo, Parent  
Lisa Frank and Andrea Bennett, Special Kids Company  
Riya Gupta, Strong Schools Maryland  
Beth Ann Hancock, Charting the Course, LLC  
Kalman Hettleman, Independent Advocate  
Morgan Durand Horvath, M.Ed., Abilities Network  
Rosemary Kitzinger and Marjorie Guldán, Bright Futures, LLC  
Ande Kolp, The Arc Maryland  
Leslie Seid Margolis, Disability Rights Maryland, Co-Chairperson, Education Advocacy Coalition  
Monica Martinez, Martinez Advocacy  
Beth Nolan, MAT, Education Team Allies  
Sumaiya Olatunde, H2D Counseling  
Ellen O'Neill, Atlantic Seaboard Dyslexia Education Center  
Ronza Othman, National Federation of the Blind of Maryland/Maryland Parents of Blind  
Children  
Kate Raab and Nicole Joseph, Law Office of Nicole Joseph  
Jaime Seaton, BGS Law, LLC  
Karleen Spitulnik, Decoding Dyslexia Maryland  
Ronnetta Stanley, M.Ed., Loud Voices Together  
Wayne Steedman, Steedman Law Group  
Guy Stephens, Alliance Against Seclusion and Restraint  
Maureen van Stone, Kendall Eaton, Genevieve Hornik, Project HEAL at Kennedy Krieger  
Institute  
Liz Zogby, Maryland Down Syndrome Advocacy Coalition

The Maryland Education Coalition also joins this testimony.

# **Testimony re HB1431 2025.pdf**

Uploaded by: Linda Green

Position: FAV

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431 - FAVORABLE

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 25, 2025

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

I am a resident of Mount Rainier, Maryland, commenting as an individual and wish to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 977/HB1431. I am a physician in Maryland and have treated many patients with limited resources or insurance when I was the Program Director at Prince George's Hospital Center. Currently I am an active member of the Medical Care Section of the American Public Health Association (APHA) and more locally with Doctors for Camp Closure. I have treated patients from several different countries including Cameroon, El Salvador, Viet Nam and India. It is important that all people seeking medical care trust that they are safe with their doctors and hospitals. Their concern about how their personal demographic and medical information will be shared is an example of how important it is that their privacy be maintained. Without trust patients do not seek medical care such as my patient with kidney stones who refused to be hospitalized until he became septic from a fulminating abscess. A neighbor required encouragement to take his 3 year old daughter for care for strabismus that was limiting her vision and ultimately required surgical correction.

Previous legislation has addressed data privacy in some areas. But in recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty for both citizens and more recent immigrants. The Maryland Data Privacy Act SB 977 /HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented. This bill helps to ensure my patients' and my neighbors' privacy by empowering the Attorney General to enforce these protections.

HB1431 strengthens the previous 2021 legislation and will help immigrants from multiple countries to seek care they need. It will also facilitate the work of doctors, social workers, nurses and other agencies to provide adequate treatment and support. I look forward to hearing that the Judiciary Proceedings Committee gives this bill a favorable report. Thank you for your attention.



Linda D. Green MD

Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lindsay Keipper

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 46**, and I am testifying **in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act**.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Lindsay Keipper**

**2425 Fleet St.**

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

**hb1431f-723028-01\_reprint.pdf**

Uploaded by: Lorig Charkoudian

Position: FAV



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HOUSE BILL 1431

E4, P3, L6

5lr2189

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By: Delegates Charkoudian, Acevero, Addison, Allen, Amprey, Boafu, Cullison,  
Fair, Foley, Fraser-Hidalgo, Ivey, A. Johnson, D. Jones, Kaufman, Kerr,  
Lehman, J. Long, Martinez, McCaskill, Mireku-North, Palakovich Carr,  
Pasteur, Phillips, Roberson, Shetty, Simmons, Simpson, Spiegel, Stein,  
Stewart, Taveras, Taylor, Terrasa, Vogel, White Holland, Wilkins, Williams,  
Wims, Wolek, Woorman, and Young

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2025

Assigned to: Judiciary

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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

5 FOR the purpose of altering certain provisions of law to require a law enforcement agency  
6 or a unit of State or local government to deny access to certain databases by certain  
7 individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law,  
8 under certain circumstances; requiring the Attorney General to enforce certain  
9 provisions of this Act; ~~providing that a State employee that violates certain~~  
10 ~~provisions of this Act is subject to certain discipline;~~ and generally relating to access  
11 to information held by law enforcement agencies and State and local agencies.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
13 Article - General Provisions  
14 Section 4-320(g)(2) and 4-320.1  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2019 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
18 Article - Public Safety  
19 Section 3-529  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2022 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

22 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
23 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

2

## UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 1431

1

**Article - General Provisions**

2 4-320.

3 (g) (2) A person receiving personal information under subsection (d), (e), or (f)  
4 of this section may not disclose the personal information to a federal agent or federal agency  
5 for the purpose of federal immigration enforcement unless the person is presented with a  
6 valid warrant issued by a federal court or a court of this State.

7 4-320.1.

8 (a) In this section, "facial recognition" means a biometric software application  
9 that identifies or verifies a person by comparing and analyzing patterns based on a person's  
10 facial contours.

11 (b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, an officer, an  
12 employee, an agent, or a contractor of the State or a political subdivision shall deny  
13 inspection of the part of a public record that contains personal information or inspection of  
14 a photograph of an individual by any federal agency seeking access for the purpose of  
15 enforcing federal immigration law, unless the officer, employee, agent, or contractor is  
16 provided with a valid warrant issued by a federal court or a court of this State.

17 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, an officer, an  
18 employee, an agent, or a contractor of the State or a political subdivision shall deny  
19 inspection using a facial recognition search of a digital photographic image or actual stored  
20 data of a digital photographic image by any federal agency seeking access for the purpose  
21 of enforcing federal immigration law, unless the officer, employee, agent, or contractor is  
22 provided with a valid warrant issued by a federal court or a court of this State.

23 (3) On or before June 1, 2023, and each June 1 thereafter, the Motor  
24 Vehicle Administration, the Department of State Police, and the Department of Public  
25 Safety and Correctional Services shall, with respect to requests from federal agencies  
26 seeking access for the purpose of federal immigration enforcement for personal information,  
27 a photograph of an individual, or a facial recognition search, whether or not the request  
28 was initiated through a State or local law enforcement agency, report to the General  
29 Assembly, in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article, the following  
30 information for the immediately preceding calendar year:

31 (i) the number of requests received from any federal agency for  
32 personal information, a photograph of an individual, or a facial recognition search;

33 (ii) the number of requests received from any federal agency for  
34 personal information, a photograph of an individual, or a facial recognition search for which  
35 a valid warrant issued by a federal court or a court of this State was provided;

**UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 1431**

(iii) the number and purpose of facial recognition searches completed for any federal agency based on personal information or a photograph of an individual provided to the federal agency by the Motor Vehicle Administration, the Department of State Police, or the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; and

(iv) the number of individuals whose personal information or photograph was provided to any federal agency by, respectively, the Motor Vehicle Administration, the Department of State Police, and the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

**Article - Public Safety**

3-529.

(a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

(2) (i) "Database" means any database operated by:

**1. State and local law enforcement agencies, including databases maintained for a law enforcement agency by a private vendor; OR**

**2. A UNIT OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, INCLUDING DATABASES MAINTAINED FOR A UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT BY A PRIVATE VENDOR.**

(ii) "Database" does not include a registry operated under Title 11, Subtitle 7 of the Criminal Procedure Article.

(3) (i) "Law enforcement agency" means a federal, state, or local agency authorized to enforce criminal laws.

(ii) "Law enforcement agency" includes the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services.

(b) **[An entity] A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR A UNIT OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT** operating a database shall:

(1) deny access to the database to any individual who is **OR APPEARS TO BE** seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law, unless the individual presents a valid warrant issued by a federal court or a court of this State **AND CLEARLY IDENTIFIES THE RECORD TO BE ACCESSED**; and

(2) require an individual accessing the database to provide to the **[entity] LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OR THE UNIT OF STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT**:

(i) the individual's name;

4

## UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 1431

1 (ii) the individual's contact information, including a telephone  
2 number, an e-mail address, and a physical address; and

3 (iii) unless the individual presents a valid warrant issued by a federal  
4 court or a court of this State **AND CLEARLY IDENTIFIES THE RECORD TO BE ACCESSED**,  
5 a statement by the individual, under penalty of perjury, that the individual is not accessing  
6 the database for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law.

7 (C) EACH UNIT OF STATE GOVERNMENT SHALL:

8 (1) MAINTAIN A RECORD OF EACH REQUEST BY AN INDIVIDUAL  
9 SEEKING ACCESS TO A DATABASE, RECORD, OR INFORMATION AS DESCRIBED UNDER  
10 THIS SECTION; AND

11 (2) ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1, 2025, AND EACH YEAR  
12 THEREAFTER, SUBMIT A REPORT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND, IN  
13 ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1257 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL  
14 ASSEMBLY ON:

15 (I) THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF ACCESS REQUESTS  
16 RECEIVED;

17 (II) WHETHER THE REQUESTS WERE GRANTED OR DENIED; AND

18 (III) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUIRED TO ENSURE  
19 COMPLIANCE WITH THIS SECTION.

20 (D) THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SHALL:

21 (1) ENFORCE THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION THROUGH ANY  
22 MEANS NORMALLY AVAILABLE IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF CIVIL VIOLATIONS; AND

23 (2) ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF CIVIL PENALTIES NOT EXCEEDING  
24 \$1,000 PER VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

25 ~~(E) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW, A STATE~~  
26 ~~EMPLOYEE WHO VIOLATES THIS SECTION IS SUBJECT TO DISCIPLINE, INCLUDING~~  
27 ~~TERMINATION FROM EMPLOYMENT.~~

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 October 1, 2025.

# **Testimony.HB1431\_Delegate Lorig Charkoudian.docx.p**

Uploaded by: Lorig Charkoudian

Position: FAV



## THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

HB 1431 - MARYLAND DATA PRIVACY ACT

TESTIMONY OF DELEGATE LORIG CHARKOUDIAN  
FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Judiciary Committee,

As the Trump administration prepares to double down on aggressive immigration enforcement, Maryland must act decisively to protect its residents' privacy. Without additional protections, state-held personal data could inadvertently become available to ICE, thus, breaking public trust, and placing our community at risk.

The 2021 Driver Privacy Act was a vital step, blocking ICE from warrantless access to MVA data. But gaps remain. Other state agencies still hold sensitive information that ICE could exploit. This bill strengthens Maryland's protections, ensuring that no state agency data can be weaponized against immigrant communities by:

- **Prohibiting Warrantless ICE Access to State Data** - Stops ICE from accessing state databases, records, or information without a valid warrant. This ensures that state data is not misused.
- **Mandating Transparency** - Requires state agencies to document all ICE access requests and report to the General Assembly and Attorney General. This creates transparency and ensures compliance with the law.

Limiting ICE Access to this data is critical:

- **Protects Marylanders' Privacy** - Ensures that Marylanders' sensitive data is shielded from unwarranted federal surveillance and misuse.
- **Maintains Trust in Government and State Agencies** - Trust in government is eroded by aggressive federal enforcement. This bill reassures Marylanders that state agencies prioritize their safety and privacy.

Maryland has an opportunity to uphold the privacy and trust of its residents. This bill ensures that state agencies are a shield, not a conduit, for unwarranted federal overreach.

I respectfully request a favorable report on HB 1431.

# **LW Maryland Data Privacy Act HB1431 February 27.pd**

Uploaded by: Louise Weissman

Position: FAV

HB1431\_Louise Weissman\_FAV  
Hearing Date: February 27, 2025

Louise Weissman  
Greenbelt, 20770

**Testimony on HB#1431**

**Position: Favorable**

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

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** Louise Weissman

My name is Louise Weissman. I am a resident of Greenbelt in District 22. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB #1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

There is no doubt that there are legal and ethical implications of someone's personal information. This is because if personal data falls into the wrong hands, people could be harmed. Depending how data is managed can result in identity theft, discrimination or even physical harm. When personal data falls into the wrong hands, people can be harmed.

Although the Talmud was compiled around 1,500 years ago, and doesn't include explicit text dedicated to data privacy, the concept of not intruding is ingrained in Jewish law and ethics that can be applied to modern data privacy concerns. The Talmud provides guidelines for ideas like "hezek reiyah" which in Hebrew translates to "the prohibition of looking" as well as respecting personal boundaries. Data protection plays a pivotal role in ensuring the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of data. Confidentiality of personal data is especially important in sensitive contexts such as child migration, sex/human trafficking or migrant smuggling, where identification of a data subject can have life-threatening risks

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard sensitive data ICE sought from the MDVA. It is imperative for this legislature to act again to ensure that all MD agencies can participate in protecting immigrant data. Therefore, I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB#1431.



# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act - Written Testi**

Uploaded by: M Pease

Position: FAV



Alexa Euceda, MPS (she/her), Policy Intern  
M Pease, MS (they/them), Research Director  
[info@transmaryland.org](mailto:info@transmaryland.org)

Thursday, February 27, 2025

The Honorable Luke Clippinger  
House Judiciary Committee  
100-101 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Testimony of Trans Maryland

### **IN SUPPORT OF**

**House Bill #1431:** State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law  
- Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

To the Chair, Vice Chair, and honorable members of the House Judiciary Committee:

Trans Maryland is a multi-racial, multi-gender, trans-led community power-building organization dedicated to Maryland's trans community. Trans Maryland runs the state's largest name and gender marker change program, offering peer-to-peer guidance and financial assistance to Marylanders seeking a name and gender marker change. As part of this work, we have helped hundreds of transgender Marylanders, including trans immigrants, and we have witnessed firsthand the barriers they face navigating life in our State.

This legislation supports basic human rights for safety and dignity. Maryland must protect our data to ensure services and resources across the State can be safely used by all. For trans immigrants, who face discrimination both due to their transgender experience and their immigration experience, this legislation is especially urgent.

### **Trans Immigrants Experience Discrimination and Barriers to Resources**

According to the [Williams Institute](#), there are approximately 174,200 transgender immigrants in the United States. The reasons trans immigrants come to the US are diverse and cannot be reduced to a single narrative. For many, immigrating to the US is a matter of survival and a means to escape life-threatening persecution because of their trans identity. Others seek refuge from poverty, which is exacerbated by marginalization based on their gender identity. Some were brought here as children, growing up in the only home they have ever known, yet now face the devastating threat of deportation to an unfamiliar country.

Trans people in Maryland experience violence and victimization at alarming rates. The [Maryland Trans Survey](#) found that over three-quarters (78.2%) of trans Marylanders experienced verbal assaults, over half (55.4%) have experienced threats of violence, and nearly half (46.1%) have experienced physical and/or sexual assault.

Trans immigrants exist at the intersection of compounded marginalization, facing unique and intensified barriers to basic needs fulfillment and resources. The [National Transgender Discrimination Survey](#) reveals that undocumented transgender individuals experience even greater risks of discrimination and violence within employment, housing, healthcare, or even within their own homes. The [Maryland Trans Survey](#) also revealed that three quarters (75.1%) trans Marylanders felt uncomfortable with potentially asking police for help in an emergency and about a quarter (22.5%) said they would not call 911 if they were a victim of a crime. Over two-thirds (67.2%) specified that discomfort with using emergency services was connected to their trans identity. Data also highlighted barriers accessing healthcare, legal services, and other supports.

For trans immigrants, this reality could be even more pronounced today as fear of deportation or immigration enforcement, particularly with recent actions at the Federal level, discourages them from seeking assistance, leaving them with even less access to resources.

### **Protecting Data Privacy is Critical for the Lives of Trans Immigrants**

HB 1431 is a necessary step in safeguarding critical data and protecting the privacy of all Marylanders from the inhumane effects of immigration enforcement, which disproportionately impacts marginalized communities. With [17% of Maryland's population being immigrants](#), protections against invasions of privacy are essential.

Trans immigrants are also often denied basic immigration rights such as the right to seek asylum or gain permanent residency through spousal sponsorship. When placed in immigration detention facilities, they face the possibility of being detained under dangerous conditions. [April Amaya-Luis](#), a 43-year-old transwoman from Mexico, has lived in the U.S. for 25 years. While complying with a parole check-in on February 4th in Kent County, Maryland, she was arrested by ICE for her undocumented status. She is currently being detained in Miami, Florida in an all-male facility in solitary confinement.

Her story underscores the daily dangers trans immigrants face simply living their lives. Because trans immigrants experience compounded marginalization and limited access to essential resources, it is especially critical to protect and maintain safe access to resources. Protecting data privacy is a critical step toward safeguarding the dignity, safety, and rights of some of the most vulnerable members of our communities and safeguarding access to vital resources for trans immigrants without fear of detention or deportation.

Trans immigrants are our friends, colleagues, and neighbors, and they deserve to live safely and with dignity as they contribute to communities across Maryland. As a state that values equity and seeks to leave no one behind, Maryland must protect data privacy. For these reasons, we urge a **favorable report** on HB 1431.

## **HB1431 Testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: Madelin Martinez

Position: FAV

**House Bill 1431****State and Local Agencies – Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law – Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

**SUPPORT**

**Catholic Charities of Baltimore supports HB1431**, which strengthens privacy protections for Maryland residents by restricting access to state and local government databases, facilities, and buildings for federal immigration enforcement purposes unless accompanied by a valid court warrant.

For a century, Catholic Charities has provided care and services to improve the lives of Marylanders in need. We accompany Marylanders as they age with dignity, support their pursuit of employment and career advancement, heal from trauma and addiction, achieve independence, prepare for educational success, and welcome immigrant neighbors into Maryland communities.

As the largest private provider of human services in the state, Catholic Charities of Baltimore is committed to supporting immigrants through our Esperanza Center. The Esperanza Center, serving as a vital resource for immigrants since 1963, offers support through a dedicated team of staff and volunteers, providing essential services in education, healthcare, immigration legal matters, family reunification, and general community support to help immigrants from all over the world navigate life in their new country. As an organization that works closely with thousands of immigrants each year, we understand the importance of protecting their personal information—especially in a time when data privacy is at risk.

The Maryland Data Privacy Act directly addresses this concern by ensuring privacy protections for immigrant communities. These protections are essential for maintaining trust between immigrant communities and other government institutions. When immigrant residents feel secure that their personal information will not be shared without proper legal authority, they are more likely to report crimes, seek medical care, and participate fully in their children's education—actions that strengthen the fabric of our Maryland communities.

**For these reasons, Catholic Charities of Baltimore urges the committee to issue a favorable report for HB1431.**

Submitted By: Madelin Martinez, Assistant Director of Advocacy

# **Testimony on HB1431 - Mara Levy.pdf**

Uploaded by: Mara Levy

Position: FAV

## **Testimony in SUPPORT of SB 977/HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Proceedings Committee

February 27, 2025

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

My name is Mara Levy and I am pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 828 - Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act). I'm a proud resident of Silver Spring and have lived in Maryland most of my life. I'm an occupational therapist of 20 years and a small business owner. I'm also godmother to a little girl who was born to immigrant parents while living in my home.

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 /HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Last week, my little girl needed her Medicaid/CHIP renewed, and I helped her parents update their information on the Maryland Health Exchange. The application asks about her parents' immigration status and income - and her parents were scared to answer. What if ICE were to look at their answers and come after them? Should they just not answer, even if it meant losing healthcare for their little girl? Were they safe? It broke my heart to say that I honestly didn't know whether they were safe - they should be, but these days I just don't know. However, if this bill passes, they'll be safer. They can get their children the healthcare they need, and that Maryland wants for all children, without the terror of costing their child her parents.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I call on this legislature to act once again, and I strongly urge the committee to provide a favorable report on SB 977/HB 1431.

Mara Levy MSOT, OTR/L, CLT-LANA, SEP

# **MB Testimony Data Protection Senates HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Maria Baltodano

Position: FAV



## Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1431

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

February 27, 2025

My name is Maria Baltodano, I am a domestic worker and proud member of the National Domestic Workers Alliance. I am pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

I immigrated to this country from Nicaragua 11 years ago in 2004 and have been here since then. I am a domestic worker, and a proud member of the National Domestic Workers Alliance DMV Chapter—the leading voice for domestic workers—including nannies, house cleaners, and homecare workers in the United States. I am here today in full support of HB1431 to protect sensitive data from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) because even though I am fortunate enough to be a permanent resident of this country, many of our immigrant neighbors and community members other immigrants do not have documentation in this country.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act **HB1431** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Currently, there is a lot of fear in the immigrant community. I hear from my friends who are undocumented that they are afraid to leave their houses right now because of the threat of deportation. The truth is that many people have left their countries in search of a better life for themselves and their families. Many are running from dangerous conditions in their countries and look to the United States as a safe haven. Yet, the last couple of weeks have felt very scary for many.

I have raised and had my children in this country. I have planted my roots here and I can't imagine what it would be like to be separated from my family. Yet, this is the truth for my undocumented brothers and sisters that run the risk of deportation.

I stand with immigrant communities and support the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.

3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB1431.

# **HB1431\_MarjorieSimon\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Marjorie Simon

Position: FAV

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Marjorie Simon is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

I am a resident of District 11B. Along with others from my synagogue, Chizuk Amuno Congregation and Schools, I have been helping to resettle Afghan newcomers since February 2022. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB 1431- 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, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

The family I am helping has supplied personal information when applying for government services for which they are eligible such as Medicaid and public library cards. They should not feel they are putting themselves at risk by sharing this information with government agencies. Thanks to the 2021 Driver Privacy Act, they did not have those concerns when applying for a driver's license or Maryland State ID. We should all have the same protections for data privacy regardless of the state or local agency with which we are interacting.

I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.

## **HB1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of**

Uploaded by: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus

Position: FAV



## MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

Lowe House Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Room 200 · Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
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ASHANTI MARTINEZ, CHAIR  
GABRIEL ACEVERO, VICE-CHAIR  
DENI TAVERAS, TREASURER  
JOE VOGEL, SECRETARY  
JASON A. AVILA GARCIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TO: Delegate Clippinger, Chair  
Delegate Bartlett, Vice Chair  
Judiciary Committee Members  
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus  
DATE: N/A  
RE: HB1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

### **The MLLC supports HB1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act), 2025.**

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB1431.

The proposed Maryland Data Privacy Act seeks to restrict the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) access to state databases, records, facilities, and individuals. It prohibits state agencies and law enforcement from sharing information or resources with ICE for immigration enforcement purposes unless ICE provides a valid court-issued warrant or a sworn statement under penalty of perjury confirming the request is unrelated to immigration enforcement. The bill also requires state agencies to document and report all ICE access requests to the Maryland General Assembly and Attorney General annually. Violations by state employees or agencies are subject to administrative discipline, civil penalties, and enforcement by the Attorney General's office. The Act is set to take effect on October 1, 2025, and aims to safeguard the data privacy of Maryland residents, particularly in contexts unrelated to federal immigration law enforcement.

This bill is particularly relevant for Maryland's Latino community, as it provides critical protections against the misuse of state-held data by ICE. While the 2021 Driver Privacy Act blocked ICE from accessing MVA data without a warrant, gaps remain in protecting sensitive information held by other state agencies. By prohibiting warrantless ICE access, this bill ensures that Latino residents' personal data cannot be weaponized for immigration enforcement, safeguarding their privacy and dignity. Additionally, the bill mandates transparency and accountability by requiring state agencies to document ICE access requests and report to the General Assembly. Enacting this legislation positions Maryland as a leader in protecting the safety and privacy of its residents, particularly those in Latino immigrant communities, who often face heightened risks of federal overreach.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB1431.

# **HB1431\_ZackBerger\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Matan Zeimer

Position: FAV

February 27th 2025  
Zackary Berger, MD, PhD  
Baltimore, Maryland, 21218



**TESTIMONY ON HB 1431 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the House Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** Zackary Berger, MD, PhD

**My name is Zackary Berger. I am a resident of District 43A, writing as a representative of Jews United for Justice (JUFJ) in strong support of HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.** JUFJ organizes 6,000 Jews and allies from across Maryland in support of state and local social, racial, and economic justice campaigns.

Jews United for Justice is a local organization of Jews and others fighting for humane values as represented in the Jewish tradition. More than a thousand years ago, a rabbi named Rabbenu Gershom instituted a decree which some Jews observe to this day. Simple, but neither trivial or irrelevant in our age, the edict forbade people from reading others' mail. Two reasons given for the decree: that using others' information without their consent is theft; and that we should not treat others' letters in a way we would not want our own to be treated.

Besides my active involvement in Jews United for Justice, I am a proud resident of the diverse neighborhood of Charles Village in Baltimore, which includes a number of immigrants. I am also a primary care physician who sees patients at a community center in Baltimore, many of whom are undocumented immigrants.

As a physician who treats undocumented people, I see many patients who are terrified of being caught by the state when they are just trying to live a better life. They don't know if their medical, legal, or driving records can be used by ICE to deport them back to countries they left— where they faced threats of violence, poverty, and persecution. This fear is accompanied by justified mistrust. This legislation would ensure that only a legal warrant grants ICE access to information, and would mandate state departments to record instances of ICE access.

As I write this testimony I recall the patients I saw in my work day today, all trying to work hard for their families, but all terrified that a false move could jeopardize their lives. Government should help, not hurt, and data collection should be for the benefit of residents, not a playground for those wishing to deport them without duly executed warrants.



As our neighbors, immigrants deserve to be treated like anyone should be treated – private information should stay private unless there is an attested legal need with a warrant.

**On behalf of JUFJ, I respectfully urge the committee to return a favorable report on HBI43I.**

# **EC Testimony\_Data privacy.pdf**

Uploaded by: Matthew Dolamore

Position: FAV

House Judiciary Committee  
**HB 1431 – State and Local Agencies – Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law – Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**  
February 27, 2025

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

The Esperanza Center is a comprehensive resource center whose mission is to welcome immigrants by offering hope, compassionate services, and the power to improve their lives. As part of Catholic Charities of Baltimore, for over 60 years we have welcomed immigrants from all over the world, and provide services related to education, health care, immigration legal matters, family reunification, and general community support. **From this perspective, the Esperanza Center supports HB 1431.**

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

The women, men, and children served by Esperanza Center engage with us each day to improve and maintain their education, their personal health and wellness, and their ability to live into their professional and personal goals. By protecting sensitive data and information, these same people and valued members of our community will have the confidence and trust to continue this engagement. Children will continue to receive critical education, families will continue to receive primary and preventive healthcare, communities and neighborhoods will continue to benefit from civic engagement as residents feel safe working with and supporting their neighbors.

Since the Trump Administration removed safeguards to sensitive locations on January 21, 2025, we have heard concerns from our clients that parents are withholding their children from school, and primary care patients are afraid to seek necessary specialty care at area hospitals or collect medications at regional pharmacies. This fear is not solely related to the threat of ICE enforcement in sensitive locations; it is in equal measure a fear that their personal information is no longer safe. It is unacceptable to the health and wellness of our shared community that any child or parent feel fear to engage in the school system, or feel compelled to decline life saving specialty care or medication. A parent whose US Citizen child may benefit from free school lunch or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program should not be forced to choose between their child's nutrition and their fear of ICE enforcement due to data sharing.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without legal due process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. Esperanza Center once again calls on this legislature to act. **I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

Submitted by: Matthew Dolamore, Esperanza Center Program Director, MDolamore@cc-md.org

## **HB 1431 - LOS.pdf**

Uploaded by: Matthew Dudzic

Position: FAV

**Letter of Support****House Bill 1431 – State and Local Agencies – Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law –  
Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)***House Judiciary Committee**February 27, 2025*

At the Office of the Comptroller, we work to ensure that every Maryland resident who owes taxes, pays them – and only pays what they owe. When everyone chips in, then we have the resources we need to ensure we can build and maintain schools, roads, health services, infrastructure and more. Therefore, we aim to optimize our processes so that when Marylanders complete an employer withholding form or submit their tax returns, they feel secure that their sensitive information will not be used for non-tax purposes without their consent. This security is also true for some members of Maryland's immigrant community, who may carry additional fear that any sensitive information they share with the state could in turn be shared with the federal government for the purposes of immigration enforcement.

As a part of our State of the Economy series of reports that analyze different aspects of Maryland's economy, last year we published a report that took a look at the role immigration has on our state's economy. It looked at how internationally-born Marylanders contribute to our economy, both as labor force participants and as an important source of spending.<sup>1</sup> Based on these findings, one thing is overwhelmingly clear: **Maryland cannot afford to lose its immigrant community.** If immigrants are unwilling to share sensitive information with state and local agencies, it will have deleterious consequences on our tax collection abilities.

**What this bill does:** HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act, builds off of legislation I worked on in 2021, the Maryland Driver Privacy Act. HB1431 restricts the sharing of sensitive information by state agencies for the purposes of federal immigration enforcement without a valid warrant. The Act also restricts law enforcement agents and units of state and local government from entering into an information-sharing memorandum of understanding for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law.

**Why this bill is important:** In 2021, we passed the Maryland Driver Privacy Act, which protects MVA information from being accessed by the federal government for certain immigration enforcement matters. The General Assembly passed this legislation to ensure safer roads for all drivers. One way to accomplish this mission was to ensure that every driver – even those individuals without legal status – is able to obtain a license. HB1431 is a very similar bill that expands these protections to other agencies.

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<sup>1</sup> Comptroller of Maryland. (2024 April). "State of the Economy Series: Immigration and the Economy." <https://www.marylandtaxes.gov/reports/static-files/research/immigration-economy.pdf>



There are two key reasons that this agency supports this legislation: to help ensure compliance with state tax laws and to provide uniform guidance for all sensitive data across state agencies.

**Ensuring compliance.** The Office of the Comptroller of Maryland, as part of our revenue administration duties, is tasked with managing sensitive information for millions of taxpayers. To keep this information safe, we have robust measures in place, including strict data-sharing requirements with third parties and other governmental agencies. Ensuring that most taxpayer information is used solely for tax purposes helps to maintain the integrity of our tax system.

Immigrants make up a significant portion of our state tax revenue. In 2022, they paid more than **\$5.3 billion** in state and local taxes in Maryland. Furthermore, Maryland has one of the nation's highest shares of immigrant participation in the civilian labor force at over 21% despite immigrants making up only 17% of our population. These labor and taxpaying contributions are essential to Maryland's economic stability.

If Maryland's immigrant community cannot feel safe filing their taxes or filling out an employer withholding form for fear that the information will be used against them and their families in immigration enforcement actions, it could lead to depressed tax filings and labor force participation. HB1431 helps to alleviate these fears by making it clear that units of state government will not share sensitive information with federal immigration authorities without a warrant.

**Uniform State Agency Policies.** As a state agency with 1,200 employees, HB1431 provides much-needed guidance regarding how the Office of the Comptroller should respond to immigration enforcement requests from the federal government. We want to have uniformity across state government in how agencies comply with these types of requests, so that the secretary of one agency is responding in the same way as another. Putting this into state statute ensures that we have this uniformity.

Maryland's economy cannot afford to lose the important contributions made by its international community. As we face down historic budget deficits, it is more important than ever that we build up and protect these communities. Therefore, **I urge a favorable report on HB1431.** I thank Delegate Charkoudian for her vital work in keeping Maryland's immigrant communities safe.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Matthew Dudzic, Director of State Affairs, at [MDudzic@marylandtaxes.gov](mailto:MDudzic@marylandtaxes.gov).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brooke E. Lierman".

Brooke E. Lierman  
Comptroller of Maryland

# **NILC Testimony in Support of MD HB 1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Matthew Lopas

Position: FAV

February 27, 2025

Maryland House Judiciary Committee

**Re: Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431 – Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

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

The National Immigration Law Center (NILC) is pleased to offer our strong support for the Maryland Data Privacy Act (HB 1431), which protects consumer privacy and advances the goals of state and local programs by ensuring that eligible residents are not deterred from securing critical services.

NILC is dedicated to defending and advancing the rights and opportunities of low-income immigrants and their families. For over 40 years, NILC has focused on issues that affect the well-being and economic security of low-income immigrants: health care and safety net programs, education and training, workers' rights, and other federal and state policies affecting immigrants. We believe that all people should have the opportunity to participate fully in their communities – regardless of their race, gender, immigration, or economic status.

The erosion of data privacy in recent years has increased fear and uncertainty among immigrant families. The Maryland Data Privacy Act (HB 1431) helps address these concerns by restricting access to personal information, facial recognition data and access to state and local facilities for federal immigration enforcement purposes, in the absence of a valid judicial warrant. It protects personal data, photographs and biometric information, and promotes transparency by requiring that requests for such information or access be recorded. It authorizes the state Attorney General to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for employees who fail to comply. These accountability measures will help reassure consumers that their privacy will be protected if they interact with government agencies. The Act would allow state and local agencies to focus on their mission, by helping to ensure that eligible individuals feel more comfortable seeking services and reporting crimes.

We have witnessed the harmful effects of deterring access to services, due to fears that consumers' privacy will be compromised or that contact with government agencies will place



them or their family at risk.<sup>1</sup> This chilling effect undermines state and local efforts to protect public health, promote road safety, assist victims of crimes, provide disaster relief and perform other critical functions.

Because immigrants and citizens live together in families and communities, our health and well-being are interconnected. By addressing concerns that deter families from seeking state and local services, the Maryland Data Privacy Act will strengthen the institutions that are central to a community's success. States across the country increasingly are taking steps to defend the privacy of consumers, including immigrant families. This "good government" principle will improve Maryland's ability to protect and serve all residents.

We therefore urge the committee to vote YES on HB 1431.

Respectfully,

Tanya Broder, Senior Counsel  
National Immigration Law Center

Matthew Lopas, Director of State Advocacy  
National Immigration Law Center

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g. [Latino migrants' healthcare use in the US and perceived immigration laws and consequences: A multivariable analysis](#) Travel Medicine and Infectious Disease (Nov.–Dec. 2023). [Fearing deportation, many domestic violence victims are steering clear of police and courts](#) Los Angeles Times (Oct. 9, 2017).

## **Maureen W. Testimony in Support of HB1431 – Maryla**

Uploaded by: Maureen Wambui

Position: FAV

Maureen Wambui

7827 Rolling View Ave

Nottingham, MD, 21236

Maureen.w.m.2030@gmail.com

02/25/2025

The Honorable Members of the House Committee

Maryland General Assembly

Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Testimony in Support of HB1431 – Maryland Data Privacy Act

I am writing to express my strong support for HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act, which seeks to protect the personal information of Maryland residents, particularly immigrant communities, by preventing unauthorized access and use of state-held data for federal immigration enforcement. As an advocate for immigrant rights and community trust, I believe this bill is essential in ensuring privacy, safety, and fairness for all residents of Maryland.

This bill is crucial because it:

- **Protects Personal Data** – Ensures that sensitive state-held information, such as DMV records and government databases, is not misused for immigration enforcement purposes.
- **Prevents Unjust Targeting** – Stops state agencies from sharing data that could lead to wrongful detentions or deportations.
- **Encourages Trust in Local Institutions** – Immigrants will feel safer seeking healthcare, education, and law enforcement assistance without the fear of being reported to immigration authorities.
- **Holds State Employees Accountable** – Ensures that government officials face consequences if they improperly share protected personal data.

Maryland has long been a leader in fostering inclusivity and protecting the rights of all its residents. By passing HB1431, the state will take a necessary step in ensuring that personal data is used responsibly and that immigrant communities can engage with public services without fear. I strongly urge you to support this bill and uphold Maryland's commitment to privacy and justice.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Maureen Wambui

# **Maryland Catholic Conference\_FAVHB1431\_.pdf**

Uploaded by: Michelle Zelaya

Position: FAV



MARYLAND  
CATHOLIC  
CONFERENCE

February 27, 2025

HB1431

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

**Judiciary Committee**

**Position: Favorable**

The Maryland Catholic Conference offers this testimony in support of **House Bill 1431**. The Maryland Catholic Conference is the public policy representative of the three (arch)dioceses serving Maryland, which together encompass over one million Marylanders. Statewide, their parishes, schools, hospitals and numerous charities combine to form our state's second largest social service provider network, behind only our state government.

The Maryland Data Privacy Act seeks to strengthen protections for immigrant communities by restricting state and local agencies from granting access to certain databases for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law. Under this legislation, law enforcement agencies and units of state or local government are required to deny access to personal data when such requests are made by individuals or entities seeking to enforce federal immigration policies, except under specific circumstances. Additionally, the Act mandates that the Attorney General oversees and enforces compliance, ensuring that state agencies do not facilitate unjust immigration enforcement practices. Furthermore, any state employee found in violating these provisions will be subject to disciplinary action, reinforcing the seriousness of these protections.

**House Bill 1431** aligns with the principles of human dignity, subsidiarity, and the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable. Immigrants, especially those facing legal uncertainty, are among the most vulnerable populations, often subject to exploitation, fear, and separation from their families. Ensuring data privacy safeguards is a matter of protecting human dignity by preventing unjust targeting and deportations that break families apart and harm communities. Additionally, this bill upholds the principle of subsidiarity, as it reinforces the role of state and local governments in prioritizing the well-being of their residents over federal enforcement measures that may create fear and distrust.

By limiting state and local cooperation in federal immigration enforcement through data access restrictions, this Act promotes the common good and fosters trust between immigrant communities and local institutions. It ensures that individuals can access essential services, report crimes, and engage with their communities without fear of exposure to immigration enforcement. This legislation ultimately supports a more just and compassionate society where all individuals, regardless of status, are treated with dignity and respect.

For these reasons, the Maryland Catholic Conference urges a favorable report on **House Bill 1431**.

**IMG\_20250225\_0001.pdf**

Uploaded by: Miner Brown

Position: FAV



**House Bills #1431, #HB1006 and HB#1222**

**Favorable**

**Title: Immigrant Justice Bills**

**Judiciary Committee: Luke Clippinger Chair, and Sandy Bartlett, Vice-Chair**

**Testimony submitted by Miner L. (Moe) Brown of District 11B**

(A CASA Ally, former Habitat for Humanity volunteer for over 9+ years, active in Scouting America in Baltimore, and member of the Social Advocacy Committee, Chizuk Amuno Congregation, Pikesville, MD)

It is no secret that our immigrant neighbors, friends, and service providers are under attack! It is also no secret that immigrant families are indispensable to the economy and tax support to the State of Maryland being 17% of our population with the 4<sup>th</sup> largest State population per capita in the country. They often must perform various work that others refuse to do. And, they pay taxes and into Social Security without receiving benefits.

With President Trump's litany of Executive Orders signed on January 20, 2025, several draconian actions such as removing immigrant protections, freezing new immigrants from coming into the country, and initiated forced deportations leading to the break-up of immigrant and immigrant/American-citizen families. Critical for the safety of immigrant families Trump also rescinded a policy that protected certain areas- such as schools, houses of worship, and hospitals from immigrant enforcement humanely established by President Biden.

The following bills attempt to create laws for all our community members so they can have safe access to basic services and support without fear and reprisal in the wake of the litany of cruel executive orders targeting immigrants.

1. **Maryland Data Privacy Act (HB1431)**- This bill will stop ICE from accessing state and local data of immigrant Marylanders without warrant.
2. **Protecting Sensitive Locations Act (HB1006)**- This act establishes clear guidelines on limiting ICE access to sensitive locations including schools, courthouses, hospitals, places of worship, and other vital spaces. **It does not yet include day care locations- an oversight.**
3. **Maryland Values Act (HB1222)**- This legislation ends harmful 287(g) agreements held by several counties that allow local police (usually county sheriffs) to act as ICE agents.

One last note of the lack of empathy and care for the wellbeing of others shown by The President. On January 20<sup>th</sup>, by another executive order signed by Trump, he suspended the entry program and canceled incoming travel arrangements for about 10,000 approved refugees. Separately, the administration ordered outside resettlement agencies receiving federal funds to stop providing services to refugees who are now here. Currently, there are now families living in Baltimore having no idea if or when they will ever see their relatives again who are waiting to come here.

In the Jewish faith, we believe that we have a moral obligation to provide assistance and support to all strangers as "We were once strangers in the land of Egypt". Time is of the essences. **Thank you for your support in trying to bringing some sanity and peace back to our State through the passage of these Bills.**

**Miner L. (Moe) Brown (District 11B)**

# **HB1431\_MD Data Privacy Act\_FAV\_QV.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Molly Finch

Position: FAV

**Bill Title:** State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law –  
Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act) - HB1431 (SB977)  
**Position:** SUPPORT (FAV)  
**To:** Judiciary Committee  
**Date:** February 27, 2025

Dear Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Erinn Camp Mansour with Quaker Voice of Maryland (QVM), a faith-based advocacy group that advocates for policies that are just, compassionate, equitable, and respectful of the inherent worth of every person and the Earth upon which we live. Quakers across Maryland shared with us their concern for immigrant protections. QVM sees HB1431 as an urgent priority in response to increasingly aggressive immigration enforcement policies and state and local data vulnerabilities.

The Quaker experience of the Divine affects what we do in our personal lives, what we believe and how we work for changes in the wider world. “Testimonies” are what Quakers call the ways we have found to live and act based on our beliefs. We embrace the knowledge that all persons are children of the Divine and brothers and sisters of one another. **Our spiritual and social testimonies, including those of peace, community, integrity, and equality, lead us to submit this testimony for HB1431.**

The 2021 Driver Privacy Act was a vital step, blocking U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from warrantless access to Motor Vehicle Administration (MVA) data, but other state agencies still hold sensitive information that ICE could seize. HB1431 stops ICE from accessing state and local databases, records, or information without a valid warrant, ensuring that state data is not misused. The bill also requires state agencies to document all ICE access requests and report to the General Assembly and Attorney General, improving transparency and ensuring compliance with the law.

Maryland must act decisively to protect its residents’ privacy. Trust in government has eroded under aggressive federal enforcement policies. This bill reassures Marylanders that state agencies prioritize their safety and privacy. Without these additional protections, state-held personal data could inadvertently become available to ICE, breaking public trust, and placing our community at risk. Residents who are immigrants should be able to access critical government services without worrying that they will be discriminated against and that their information will be shared with federal immigration authorities. No one should be *afraid* to go to school, seek medical attention, or ask for assistance to feed their family.

Thank you for your consideration of this testimony. We request a FAVORABLE report for this important and emergency legislation.

Sincerely,

Erinn Camp Mansour

*Working Group Member, on behalf of Quaker Voice of Maryland*

Organization email: [quakervoice.md@gmail.com](mailto:quakervoice.md@gmail.com)

# **CentroSOL\_\_HB1431\_v2.pdf**

Uploaded by: Monica Guerrero Vazquez

Position: FAV



Center for Salud/Health and Opportunity for Latinos  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Center for Child and Community Health Research  
Mason F. Lord Bldg, Center Tower Suite 4200  
5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore MD 21224  
www.jhcentrosol.org | 410.550.1129 | centrosol@jhmi.edu

**HB 1431**

**Favorable**

TO: Delegate Luke H. Clippinger, Chair  
Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett, Vice Chair  
House Judiciary Committee Members

FROM: Centro SOL

DATE: February 19, 2025

**Centro SOL is pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

Centro SOL (Center for Health and Opportunity for Latinos at Johns Hopkins) is committed to promoting equity in health and providing high quality care to all of our patients including the large and growing Latino population in the State of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB1431. Note: This testimony does not necessarily represent the views of Johns Hopkins University.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act **HB 1431** takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

The current culture of fear and mistrust of government agencies undermines our ability to conduct important research within the Latino community in Baltimore. If the immigrant community does not feel comfortable participating in our studies and trust that their information will remain confidential, the validity and effectiveness of our research will suffer greatly. It is essential that our research continue within this underserved community so that we can continue to adequately address the stark health disparities that exist.

Centro SOL stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.



Center for Salud/Health and Opportunity for Latinos  
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine  
Center for Child and Community Health Research  
Mason F. Lord Bldg, Center Tower Suite 4200  
5200 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore MD 21224  
www.jhcentrosol.org | 410.550.1129 | centrosol@jhmi.edu

3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. **Centro SOL** once again calls on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**Centro SOL urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

### **Signatures:**

**Monica Guerrero Vazquez, MS, MPH**  
Executive Director, Centro SOL

**Sarah Polk, MD, ScM**  
Co-Director, Centro SOL  
Associate Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins  
University School of Medicine

**Rheanna Platt MD, MPH**  
Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral  
Sciences, Division of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Johns  
Hopkins University/Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center

**Rachel Aylor**  
Executive Director, National Alliance for Hispanic Families

**C. Nicholas Cuneo, MD, MPH**  
Medical Director, HEAL Refugee Health & Asylum Collaborative

**Ellen Molino, MBA**  
Research Program Manager, Centro SOL

**Mauricio Torres-Martinez, MD**

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# **NFG HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Natali Fani-González

Position: FAV

NATALI FANI-GONZÁLEZ  
COUNCILMEMBER, DISTRICT 6

100 Maryland Ave  
Rockville, MD 20850

CHAIR  
Economic Development Committee (ECON)

MEMBER  
Planning, Housing and Parks Committee (PHP)



**MONTGOMERY COUNTY COUNCIL**  
ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

**FAVORABLE**

**State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**  
**SB 977 / HB 1431**

February 25, 2025

Dear Members of the Committee:

This act stops ICE from accessing state and local data of immigrant Marylanders **without a warrant**. Let's please never forget the fundamental constitutional protections of due process and equal protection embodied in our Constitution and Bill of Rights apply to every person, regardless of immigration status.

I urge you to please vote in favor of the Maryland Data Privacy Act.

Sincerely,

Natali Fani-González  
Councilmember, District 6



# **HB1431\_NicoleMorse\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: NICOLE MORSE

Position: FAV

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**  
State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on  
Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

Nicole Morse is pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- 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, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I once again call on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

I urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.

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<sup>1</sup>[2021, MGA HB23](#)

# **RTES PTA Testimony in Fav of HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Omar Marroquin

Position: FAV

**Testimony in Support of HB1431**  
**Omar Marroquin, President of the Parent Teacher Association**  
**at Rolling Terrace Elementary School**  
**February 25, 2025**

Good afternoon Chairman Clippinger, Vice-Chair Bartlett and Members of the Judiciary Committee.

My name is Omar Marroquin, and I'm President of the Parent Teacher Association for Rolling Terrace Elementary (RTES), a Title I, Two-Way Language Immersion School in Takoma Park. Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of House Bill 1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act, State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information.

Walking into RTES, you'll find flags from around the world lining the entrance representing the diverse makeup of our community. Spanish is the most common language you'll hear amongst families but you'll also hear Creole, Mam, and Amharic as you drop off and pick up your little ones. Diversity is embraced and celebrated in a way that brings pride and creates a safe space for our over 650 students to be themselves. But since the current administration entered the White House there is a fear amongst many of our families that is impossible to ignore.

Threats to deport as many individuals as possible from the white house have caused students to wonder if their parents are safe, if their best friends are safe, and if they themselves are safe. As PTA president, many of my conversations with parents have been around understanding where they are most at risk and how they should navigate this current landscape. Local and state governments must not share sensitive information relating to immigration status putting families at risk of losing parents and other important members of our community

We support HB1431 because it will help protect our families in need of protection from being targeted and hunted down in our most vulnerable moments and sensitive places.

Thank you for your consideration of this important bill, and for your efforts to ensure every Maryland resident is safe. The Parent Teacher Association of Rolling Terrace Elementary School urges a favorable report on House Bill 1431.

# **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431 Final.pdf**

Uploaded by: Pam Stuckey

Position: FAV

## **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

Hearing date: February 27, 2025

From: Pam Stuckey, Kensington, Maryland

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

I live in D18 and am pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act**. I'm a retired RN who has been an immigrant advocate for many years. I'm no longer caring for patients myself but I dedicated my life to patient care and those values are still the core of my ethics. Over the years, each year in fact, I saw the connection between the patient and health care providers weaken. In today's political climate many 'authorities' and politicians are more than happy for immigrants to feel and be more scared. Trust was the key to success in everything I did as a nurse. The patient needed to feel safe. And increased anxiety could lead to worse outcomes. And more importantly ... every patient needed to be treated equally. In order for health care providers today to act ethically and morally we need to be ensuring privacy for our neighbors in the immigrant community.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents, but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness. *[Again, I think not every letter needs identical text blocks—so feel free to omit or shorten as needed for space, or move a key talking point to the final “I urge” sentence, just don’t change/replace the general talking points.]*

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive MVA data, via HB23. I once again call on this legislature to act.

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.pdf**

Uploaded by: Rebecca Shillenn

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 45**. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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.

I have children in public school and am particularly concerned about the impact of this on their classmates and their teachers. I want schools to continue to be able to run without fear of ICE agents coming in to take children, and children to not be afraid to go to school.

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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Rebecca Shillenn**

**5401 Elsrode Avenue Baltimore**

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore



## **Testimony in support of HB1431 - State and Local A**

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

02/27/2025

Richard Keith Kaplowitz  
Frederick, MD 21703-7134

**TESTIMONY ON HB#1431 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**  
**State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on**  
**Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee  
**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of/ HB#/1431, State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

This bill is predicated on the United States Constitution and its interpretation: <sup>1</sup>

The Constitution protects all people living in the United States, regardless of immigration status. Most constitutional provisions apply based on personhood, not citizenship. In other words, if an individual is physically present in the US, they are entitled to the protections granted by the Constitution. This includes the right to due process and equal protection under the law.

The [Fifth Amendment](#), for example, states that “No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law.” And the Fourteenth Amendment uses the [Due Process Clause](#) that describes the legal obligation of all state governments to provide equal protection of the laws to all persons, regardless of immigration status. So, while undocumented immigrants are not specifically mentioned in the Constitution, they are still protected by its principles.

When ICE or other government entities attempt to enforce laws, they must do so within the context of the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and statutes of the state of Maryland. <sup>2</sup>

In recent years, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has detained and deported record numbers of people from the United States. Many of ICE’s removal tactics take away even the right to a fair hearing in court, as the government rushes to

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<sup>1</sup> <https://clearwaterlawgrouptrcities.com/5-rights-of-undocumented-immigrants/#:~:text=Although%20undocumented%20immigrants%20are%20not,and%20the%20right%20to%20education.>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.aclu.org/issues/immigrants-rights/ice-and-border-patrol-abuses>

judgment and tries to ram people through a rubber-stamp system that ignores individual circumstances. These enforcement programs pose a variety of threats to civil liberties: They implicate the Fourth Amendment's protection against unreasonable searches and seizures, the constitutional guarantee of due process, and the constitutional guarantee of equal protection and freedom from discrimination based on race, ethnicity, and national origin. ICE's enforcement practices also impose heavy social costs, tearing American families apart and undermining community trust in law enforcement.

This bill will protect residents in Maryland privacy by altering certain provisions of law. The Maryland Data Privacy Act would compel law enforcement agencies and units of state or local government to **deny access to personal information and photographs and certain databases, facilities, or buildings by certain individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law** unless presented with a valid warrant issued by a federal or state court. It also mandates the Attorney General to enforce these provisions and outline disciplinary actions for state employees who violate the act.

My Jewish faith provides to me the commandment to care for the stranger which is mentioned more times than *any* other commandment in the Torah — more even than the command to love God (*v'ahavta*). According to the Talmud, Rabbi Eliezer the Great noted that "the Torah warns 36 times, and some say 46 times, not to oppress the stranger" (Babylonian Talmud, *Bava M'tzia* 59b). The decree is articulated in a number of ways: "You shall not wrong nor oppress the stranger, for you were strangers in the Land of Egypt" (Exodus 22:20). "The strangers who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens... for you were strangers in the land of Egypt" (Leviticus 19:34).<sup>3</sup>

This bill respects that commandment in treatment of our immigrant population in Maryland.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1431.**

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<sup>3</sup> [https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study/torah-commentary/commandment-love-and-help-stranger#:~:text=The%20decree%20is%20articulated%20in,%22%20\(Leviticus19%3A34\)](https://reformjudaism.org/learning/torah-study/torah-commentary/commandment-love-and-help-stranger#:~:text=The%20decree%20is%20articulated%20in,%22%20(Leviticus19%3A34))

**hb1431-rjrand.pdf**

Uploaded by: Robert Rand

Position: FAV

Robert Rand  
19 Ridge Road, Unit T  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 25, 2025

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

I am pleased to offer **a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

I live in Greenbelt, Maryland, where over 4,000 residents are immigrants without documentation. These are my neighbors, who contribute economically, socially, and culturally to our community. They deserve respect and protection from those who would see them as problems rather than assets.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

My immigrant neighbors need reassurance from the State of Maryland that they are valued and respected.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. I once again call on this legislature to act.

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

Sincerely,

Bob Rand  
Greenbelt, Maryland

# **BJC Support HB1431 - State and Local Agencies - En**

Uploaded by: Sarah Miicke

Position: FAV



**Baltimore Jewish Council**

*An agency of The Associated*

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Temple Isaiah  
Zionist Organization of America  
Baltimore District

## WRITTEN TESTIMONY

### House Bill 1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information

#### (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

#### Judiciary Committee

**February 27, 2025**

#### SUPPORT

**Background:** If enacted, House Bill 1431 would alter provisions of the law so that a law enforcement agency or unit of State or local government would deny access to certain databases with personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities to federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

**Written Comments:** The Baltimore Jewish Council (BJC) represents The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore and all of its agencies and programs. Immigration has been a central element of the Jewish experience since biblical times. The American Jewish Community has long advocated for fair and just immigration and refugee policies, in accordance with the biblical teaching to *welcome the stranger*. To that end, Maryland should be a welcoming state to those who want to be here. Those facing deportation are in a dire position and are often facing the prospect of having to leave a place they have called home for many years.

Further, many of our ancestors were stopped in the street for their papers, harassed by local law enforcement, and forced to register in a database of fellow Jews. While these policies were framed as security measures, they resulted in irreversible damage that cannot be forgotten. Maryland *must not* repeat this history by targeting the community members it swears to serve and protect.

For these reasons we ask for a favorable report on HB1431.

*The Baltimore Jewish Council, a coalition of central Maryland Jewish organizations and congregations, advocates at all levels of government, on a variety of social welfare, economic and religious concerns, to protect and promote the interests of the Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore, its agencies and the Greater Baltimore Jewish community.*



# **HB1431.Dolamore.Support.pdf**

Uploaded by: Stephanie Dolamore

Position: FAV

Dear **Members of the Judiciary 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 HB1431, 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.

HB1431 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, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Stephanie Dolamore**

**3718 Yolando Road, Baltimore, Maryland, 21218**

Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **testimony for HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Susan Lyke

Position: FAV

## **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee  
February 27, 2025

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

I am offering a favorable testimony in strong support of SB 977/HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).

I am a resident of Howard County and involved as a volunteer with the Interfaith Refugee Committee, a volunteer “ambassador” for Global Refuge in Baltimore and a resettlement team at my church and a Maryland Lutheran network. I am involved directly with resettlement of three families in Baltimore and Howard counties. I have volunteered with Luminus which works primarily with immigrants from Mexico and Latin America.

I am very concerned about allowing access to privacy data for purposes of enforcement of immigration law. Frankly, this intrusion into personal data reminds me of the repressive governments from which two of the families with whom I work have fled. This bill would help restore trust in our data privacy, the rule of law and prevent a further erosion of trust in our government.

Allowing access to personal data in a wide swath of the government would prevent people from getting access to needed services, the use of sensitive services, and the like. Immigration Enforcement officials should not have broad access to this data. This sets up a dangerous precedence.

This act would prevent access to such data without a warrant. It would protect critical information and photos for people here seeking asylum, who may indeed have other vulnerable family members remaining in their country of origin. Many of the Afghan refugees are very worried about retaliation by the Taliban of their family members.

Thank you very much.

Susan Lyke  
5034 whetstone Road  
Columbia, MD. 21044

# **HB1431\_Susan Tafler\_FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Susan Tafler

Position: FAV

**Committee: House Judiciary Committee**

**Testimony: HB1431 State and Local Agencies—Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law—Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**Submitting Susan Tafler**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

**Hearing Date: February 27, 2025**

Dear Chair Luke Clippinger, Vice Chair Sandy Bartlett, and members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Susan Tafler and I am a resident of Odenton, District 21. I am submitting this testimony urging the House Judiciary Committee to issue a favorable report on House Bill 1431. State and Local Agencies—Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law—Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act) will stop ICE from accessing state databases, records, or information without a valid warrant, thereby ensuring that state data is not misused. It will also require state agencies to document all ICE access requests and report to the General Assembly and Attorney General, thereby creating transparency and ensuring compliance with the law.

I am the granddaughter of four immigrants from Eastern Europe who came to America for freedom from forced conscription and freedom from arrest for unionizing activities as well as better economic opportunities and safety from antisemitic pogroms. As a Jew guided by our sacred texts, I am mindful that the Bible commands us: “When strangers reside with you in your land, you shall not wrong them. The sojourners who reside with you shall be to you as your citizens; you shall love them as yourself, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt” (Leviticus 19: 33-34).

The 2021 Driver Privacy Act was a vital step, blocking ICE from warrantless access to MVA data. But gaps remain, and other state agencies still hold sensitive information that ICE could exploit. The Maryland Data Privacy Act strengthens Maryland’s protections, ensuring that no state agency data can be weaponized against immigrant communities. Our state agencies should not be complicit in aggressive federal enforcement and overreach. By enacting HB1431, Maryland will be stronger in protecting the privacy, dignity, and safety of all residents.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB 1431.

# **Maryland Data Privacy Act HB1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Susana Barrios

Position: FAV





HB1431

**TO:** Members of the House Judiciary Committee

**FROM:** Latino Racial Justice Circle

**RE:** Maryland Data Privacy Act HB1431

**POSITION: SUPPORT**

The Latino Racial Justice Circle is pleased to offer a favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431-State and Local Agencies- **Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**. Founded in October 2015, The Latino Racial Justice Circle is a community-based nonprofit organization that does not deliver direct services to individuals. Instead, we raise funds to assist families with viable pathways for immigration relief, pay for legal representation, and give small scholarships to college students who are ineligible for federal financial aid. Additionally, we facilitate conversations on immigration and civic engagement.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. The Latino Racial Justice Circle, once again calls on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[2021, MGA HB23](#)

# **Testimony HB 1431 - CPSR.pdf**

Uploaded by: Terrence Fitzgerald

Position: FAV



**Testimony on HB 1431**  
**State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on**  
**Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**House Judiciary Committee**

**Date: February 27, 2025**

**Position: SUPPORT**

Chesapeake Physicians for Social Responsibility (CPSR) is a statewide evidence-based organization of over 900 physicians and other health professionals and supporters that addresses public health threats as seen through the intersectional lens of environmental, racial and social justice.

In recent years the sharing of contact information and other identifying data has created fear in the immigrant community because a trip to the doctor, the hospital, or a social services agency could result in detention and the disruption of life, even if the detention is without legal basis. Patients who live with such fear often delay seeking medical care for themselves or their children or even contacting the services that can make medical care accessible. This can be very risky, and sometimes has tragic consequences – both for the individuals involved and for the wider community.

**CPSR strongly supports HB 1431**, which takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

The eminent German physician and legislator Rudolf Virchow opined that “politics is nothing else but medicine on a large scale.” By enacting HB 1431 Maryland will be clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, which will promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness and will result in decreased fear and increased trust. This will clearly be an act to promote Public Health.

**CPSR urges the Committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

Terrence T. Fitzgerald, MD

# **HB1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act.pdf**

Uploaded by: Theresa M. Hoffman

Position: FAV

Dear Members of the Judiciary 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 43b. **I am testifying in support of HB1431, 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 he demonizes: our friends, our neighbors, hard-working people who help build our communities and 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 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.

HB1431 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, constitutionally valid warrant, signed by a judge, authorizing their access to private information. In addition, HB1431 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 HB1431, the Maryland Data Privacy Act.**

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Theresa M. Hoffman  
803 Seaword Rd., Towson, MD 21286  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

# **HB 1431 Data Privacy 2025 Ditz FAV.pdf**

Uploaded by: Toby Ditz

Position: FAV

Feb 27, 2025  
Toby Ditz  
Baltimore, Maryland 21217

**TESTIMONY ON SB 977/HB 1431 POSITION: FAVORABLE**

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

**TO:** Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Committee  
**FROM:** Toby Ditz

My name is Toby Ditz, and I have lived in Baltimore City's District 40 for over almost forty years. This testimony is in support of **HB 1431**.

I am deeply committed to this legislation partly because I am the grandchild of Jewish immigrants. My maternal grandmother, Helen, emigrated in 1919 from Russia in the midst of civil war in the company of her mother and younger sister; they fled across the closing Polish border to Amsterdam and then entered the US through Ellis Island. Had they tried to come here only ten years later, after US immigration policy choked off the flow of immigrants from Eastern Europe (and elsewhere around the world), I doubt I would be here today. I am profoundly grateful they made it.

The gates of immigration once again opened after 1965, but we are now in the midst of an era of backlash. President Trump has now promised mass arrest and deportations. This includes seizure of data on our immigrant residents from state agencies.

Since 2021, this legislature has worked to protect sensitive personal data. The Maryland Data Privacy Act continues this tradition by directing state agencies and local law enforcement officers to share Personal data, including data based on biometrics, with federal immigration enforcement officers only if the latter obtains a court ordered warrant. Their data requests must also be limited to what the warrant designates.

This proposed legislation offers common sense protection of our residents and correctly delineates the extent and limits on cooperation of state agencies and local law enforcement officers with federal immigration agents.

.Let's continue our tradition of protecting the privacy rights of all Marylanders.

**I respectfully urge a favorable report on HB1431**



## **2.25 HB 1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcem**

Uploaded by: Tonaeya Moore

Position: FAV



**HB 1431 - State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**House Judiciary Committee**

**February 27, 2025**

**SUPPORT**

Chair Clippinger, Vice-Chair, and members of the committee thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 1431. This bill will protect immigrant families and ensure that private and sensitive data on immigrant communities is not used against them to target, detain, and separate families.

The CASH Campaign of Maryland promotes economic advancement for low-to-moderate income individuals and families in Baltimore and across Maryland. CASH accomplishes its mission through operating a portfolio of direct service programs, building organizational and field capacity, and leading policy and advocacy initiatives to strengthen family economic stability. CASH and its partners across the state achieve this by providing free tax preparation services through the IRS program 'VITA', offering free financial education and coaching, and engaging in policy research and advocacy. **Almost 4,000 of CASH's tax preparation clients earn less than \$10,000 annually. More than half earn less than \$20,000.**

In recent years, the decline of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. HB 1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

CASH stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** This bill prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly specifying the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. CASH once again calls on this legislature to act.

**CASH urges the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

*Creating Assets, Savings and Hope*

# **HB1431 - Data Privacy Act - SWASC - FAV.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: UM SWASC

Position: FAV

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## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1431

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

*House Judiciary Committee*

February 27, 2025

**Social Work Advocates for Social Change strongly supports HB 1431**, which will ensure that federal immigration authorities cannot access sensitive information without a valid warrant. HB 1431 takes critical steps to protect private data and shore up trust between the state's immigrant communities and public institutions.

**HB 1431 will protect personal information and mandate measures for transparency and accountability from state and local government entities.** By requiring court-issued warrants to access state and local government databases to enforce federal immigration law, HB 1431 prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information such as facial recognition scans to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed. The bill requires agencies to maintain records of all requests to access private data and to submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly. The Maryland Data Privacy Act will empower the Attorney General to enforce its protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

**HB 1431 is a necessary protection to help immigrants feel safe in Maryland.** Drastic changes in immigration policies over the last two administrations have shown that the fear and uncertainty immigrant communities experience in response to attacks on their families contribute to adverse health outcomes and avoidance of safety net programs.<sup>1</sup> At the start of his second term, President Trump has threatened to expand surveillance for the capture and deportation of millions of immigrants around the country. The Maryland Data Privacy Act is just one among many other safeguards that must be put in place to limit these grounds for further violence against the state's immigrant communities.

**Protecting immigrants in Maryland supports the state's economy during a time of extreme labor shortages and a nearly \$3 billion budget gap.**<sup>2</sup> In a report by the Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy, it was estimated that undocumented immigrants paid \$779.3 million in state and local taxes in 2022.<sup>3</sup> Undocumented

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<sup>1</sup>Gonzalez, D., Bernstein, H., Karpman, M., & Kenney, G. (2024). *Mixed-Status Families and Immigrant Families with Children Continued Avoiding Safety Net Programs in 2023*. Urban Institute.

<sup>2</sup>Cates, L., Melhorn, S.F. (2024). *Understanding America's Labor Shortage: The Most Impacted States*. U.S. Chamber of Commerce.  
<https://www.uschamber.com/workforce/the-states-suffering-most-from-the-labor-shortage>

<sup>3</sup>Davis, C., Guzman, M., Sifre, E. (2024). *Tax Payments by Undocumented Immigrants*. Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy.  
<https://itp.org/undocumented-immigrants-taxes-2024/>



For more information, please contact

Selome Ejigu

[umswasc@gmail.com](mailto:umswasc@gmail.com)

immigrants help fund the social programs that keep many Marylanders afloat. Based on the Governor's proposed FY 2026 appropriations<sup>4</sup>, immigrant contributions alone could fully fund the Uninsured Employers' Fund, the Department of Disabilities, the Workers' Compensation Committee, the State Board of Elections, the Governor's Office for Children, the Department of Aging, the Maryland Energy Administration, and the Department of Veterans and Military Families with money to spare. Without the immigrant workforce, the state will be forced to cut more programs and watch as small businesses suffer the loss of both the workers and customers needed to flourish. By working to keep immigrants in the state safe, Maryland can harness the economic contributions offered by the immigrant community.

**Social Work Advocates for Social Change urges a favorable report on HB 1431.** This legislation is crucial for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents and for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

*Social Work Advocates for Social Change is a coalition of MSW students at the University of Maryland School of Social Work that seeks to promote equity and justice through public policy, and to engage the communities impacted by public policy in the policymaking process.*

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<sup>4</sup> Department of Budget and Management (2025). *Budget Highlights FY 2026. pg 11.1*, Department of Budget and Management.

# **Testimony\_Vincent Tola\_2025.pdf**

Uploaded by: Vincent Tola

Position: FAV

\*Testimony in support of **HB 1006 - Protecting Sensitive Locations Act;**  
**HB 1431 - Maryland Data Privacy Act; and HB 1222 - Maryland Values**  
**Act**

Good afternoon. My name is Vincent Tola. I am an ESOL teacher in Baltimore City Public Schools. I live in Baltimore's Highlandtown, district 46.

I am here today to support HB 1006, protecting sensitive locations, HB 1431, Maryland Data Privacy and HB 1222, the Maryland Values Act.

Taken together, these bills will do much to protect Maryland residents from abuse by the federal government, and will make Maryland stronger, IMO.

\*As you know, President Trump has rescinded the guidance that instructed ICE not to carry out immigration enforcement at sensitive locations. So now, schools, hospitals and places of worship are not necessarily safe places for children, for my students, my neighbors, my coworkers. Every time I hear "mass deportation," I know that my community and the people who I care about are under threat. ... The fear and anxiety is real. ... Now, thus far, ICE has not shown up at my schools, but we fully expect them to come.

- I am aware that HB 1006 merely instructs the Attorney General to produce guidelines that Maryland agencies would be encouraged to follow. ... So, it won't stop ICE from showing up at my school. I am aware of that... But, I think it's the best we can do in the state of Maryland.
- What's also very significant is protecting the privacy of Maryland residents in our state databases. What HB 1431 does is say, "ICE, we're not going to help you come after our residents." I think, by and large, Maryland residents are not on board with ripping families apart. We oppose Trump's mass deportation agenda. I know I do. So, let's pass the Maryland Data Privacy Act, and say to my students, my coworkers, my community, we're not on board with this, and we're going to be helping ICE to round up, frankly, our hard-working neighbors, friends, fellow parishioners, and their kids.
- Finally, I agree with CASA that we should end all 287(g) agreements in the state of Maryland, and prevent any new partnerships between our local law enforcement and

ICE. There are multiple reasons why this is good policy. Please listen to advocates such as CASA on why HB 1222 is right for Maryland.

\*With my remaining time, I'd like to respond to what some people in Maryland may say in regards to this legislation.

- That we cannot “reward illegal behavior.”
- That these bills are justing protecting criminal aliens.
- That mass deportation is needed in response to Biden’s open borders policies.
- That these are “sanctuary” laws that will bring more illegal aliens to MD.

This is what I would want to point out:

- We know, as Americans, how vital and integral immigration has been to our nation and our national character. The day that people from other countries stop wanting to migrate to the United States will be **a sad and problematic day** for our nation. It’s important to be welcoming to immigrants.
- Part of the reason why we have so many undocumented Americans is the failure of the American political system. Decades ago, we should have opened up pathways for people to gain legal status, but I haven’t heard the phrase, “comprehensive immigration reform” in years.
- Most of the people who are undocumented surely would have gone through a legal process had that option been viable. We should be giving people viable options ... And let’s remember that immigrants are filling vital roles in our country. They’re filling vacancies that are difficult to fill. They’re spending money, paying taxes and creating the need for complementary jobs. They’re learning English and raising kids who could be future nurses, doctors, lawyers, business entrepreneurs, IT workers, construction workers, plumbers, steam fitters. They’re adding to our nation, not subtracting from it. We know that.
- We also know that there are global factors that push people out of their home countries and pull them toward the United States. Climate change, economic conditions, wars and violence, crime and gangs, poverty. These are the factors that push people to



migrate. How many of us can blame others for seeking a better life?

So, here's some good national policy ... (And I know it seems like we're far away from good national policy, but these are times of rapid change). So, let's talk a little bit about good policy.

- **Widen the gates.** We need more opportunities for migrants to legally migrate to the United States.

\* With that, I agree that we do need a border, and we need to enforce that border. We should dissuade people from migrating illegally into the United States, but we need to provide more legal options for folks. The trick is to get to healthy levels of legal immigration. I think we can get there.

- And we need to create pathways to a legal status for the majority of our undocumented immigrants currently living in the United States.

Why should we get rid of good people? ... Why should we rip families apart? ... You know, if someone is a violent criminal, that person should be in jail. ... And what we know is that immigrants, including illegal immigrants, commit violent crimes at a far lower rate than native-born Americans. Plain and simple.

... The whole concept of mass deportation is wrong. It's bad policy. It's wrong for our country. And now, it's forcing us teachers to look our students in their eyes, and say, "Okay, it's time to learn ... You might not be safe here. Our government might come here today to deport some of us ... but let's try to learn anyway."

It's not good. We need to do something about it.

Sincerely,

Vincent S. Tola  
3402 E. Pratt Street  
Baltimore, MD 21224  
(443) 414-2425  
[vstola99@gmail.com](mailto:vstola99@gmail.com)



# **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431 2 27 25.pdf**

Uploaded by: Wendy Frosh

Position: FAV

## **Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

My name is **Wendy Frosh**, and I am pleased to be able to offer testimony in strong support of **HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**.

I offer testimony as a health policy consultant and a long-standing advocate for access to healthcare services. I also serve as a Board member for a Federally Qualified Health Center, and for Planned Parenthood of Maryland. Both of these organizations provide a broad range of healthcare – from primary care to specialty services - often to individuals who face multiple barriers to accessing care. In those settings, our services are available regardless of an individual's ability to pay, regardless of their immigration status, and provided in a culturally sensitive manner, to improve accessibility and compliance with treatment options.

Over the past decades, as we have improved our ability to collect and share personal health information, we have realized that there is an inherent risk related to the availability of these data, and thus, an obligation to build in the strongest safeguards and ensure that health information is protected. Without that assurance, any patient is vulnerable to the misuse and abuse of their sensitive health data.

In particular, within immigrant communities, fear and uncertainty regarding how personal information is used are heightened. This often leads individuals to delay or avoid necessary healthcare services. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to build trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents, but also for fostering trust between communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote safety and fairness, and protect the accessibility of essential healthcare services.

I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431. Thank you.

# **HB1431 - MD Data Privacy Act FAV 2025.docx.pdf**

Uploaded by: Zoe Gallagher

Position: FAV



**HB1431 State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on  
Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)**

**Hearing before the House Judiciary Committee**

**February 27, 2025**

**Position: FAVORABLE**

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The Honorable Delegate Clippinger, Chair  
House Judiciary Committee

cc: Members, Judiciary Committee

Honorable Chair Clippinger and Members of the Committee:

Economic Action Maryland Fund (formerly the Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition) is a statewide coalition of individuals and organizations that advances economic rights and equity for Maryland families through research, education, direct service, and advocacy. Our 12,500 supporters include consumer advocates, practitioners, and low-income and working families throughout Maryland.

I am writing today to urge your favorable report on HB1431, which would protect immigrant communities from data sharing to federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented

Through our direct services program, Economic Action has engaged with the immigrant community in Maryland for several years. One thing remains incredibly clear, immigrants contribute greatly to Maryland as community members and members of our workforce.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act HB1431 takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

2209 Maryland Ave · Baltimore, MD · 21218 · 410-220-0494  
info@econaction.org · www.econaction.org

Tax ID 52-2266235

Economic Action Maryland Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



Through our Securing Older Adult Resources (SOAR) Program, our counselors work with low-income families and older adults to ensure they are able to receive necessary resources for economic success. In 2023-2024 17% of our SOAR clients were Latinx. Although we do not track documented status due to privacy concerns, we are deeply worried that without this bill, immigrants in our community will not seek the resources they need, particularly when it pertains to resources secured through SDAT.

Economic Action Maryland Fund stands with immigrant communities and supports the Maryland Data Privacy Act because it will:

1. **Limit Access to Databases and Facilities:** Law enforcement agencies and state or local government units must deny access to sensitive data and facilities to individuals seeking to enforce federal immigration law without a valid court-issued warrant.
2. **Protect Personal Information:** The Act prohibits the disclosure of personal data, photographs, and biometric information, such as facial recognition scans, to federal immigration authorities unless due legal processes are followed.
3. **Provide Accountability and Transparency:** Agencies must maintain records of all access requests and submit annual reports to the Attorney General and the General Assembly to ensure compliance and transparency.
4. **Ensure Enforcement and Penalties:** The Attorney General is empowered to enforce these protections, with civil penalties for violations and disciplinary actions for state employees who fail to comply.

This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. We were in support of that bill for similar reasons that we support HB1431, consumers should not live in fear of their personal data being bought, sold, or collected, particularly if that data could be used against them. Economic Action Maryland Fund once again calls on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[2021, MGA HB23](#)



For these reasons, we urge a favorable report on HB1431.

Thank you,

Zoe Gallagher

Policy Associate

2209 Maryland Ave · Baltimore, MD · 21218 · 410-220-0494

[info@econaction.org](mailto:info@econaction.org) · [www.econaction.org](http://www.econaction.org)

Tax ID 52-2266235

Economic Action Maryland Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and your contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



# **HB1431\_Ann Rubin\_FWA-1.pdf**

Uploaded by: ANNA RUBIN

Position: FWA

HB1431\_AnnRubin\_FWA  
Feb. 25, 2025  
Columbia, MD 21045  
Feb. 25, 2025

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

I am pleased to offer a **favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

I am Co-chair of the Howard County Indivisible Immigration Action Team and in that capacity I have come to understand some of the many issues facing undocumented people. Undergirding my belief in social justice are my Jewish values of caring for and befriending the ‘stranger’ because my people were strangers in many lands and at many times in history.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. Once again I call on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

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<sup>1</sup>[2021. MGA HB23](#)

# **HB1431\_Ann Rubin\_FWA.pdf**



Uploaded by: ANNA RUBIN

Position: FWA







## TESTIMONY TEMPLATE - Maryland Data Privacy Act HB1431

Hi there! Thank you so much for submitting testimony for the **Maryland Data Privacy Act** to help us protect immigrant families and ensure that private and sensitive data on immigrant communities is not used against them to target, detain, and separate families. Please personalize this template below by sharing your individual or organizational experiences and the relevance of why this issue is important to you.

 **Hearing Dates:**  
 **House Bill:** Thursday, February 27th @ 1 PM, House Judiciary Committee, 1st Floor  
**Testimony due Tuesday, February 25th at 6pm**

### How to Use This Template:

-  Copy and paste the template below into a new document to edit.
-  Fill in your details – name, role, and organization (if applicable). Adjust the headings, etc based on the testimony you are submitting.
-  Personalize your message – Share how this bill impacts you or your community. Try to keep your testimony about one page long.
-  Submit your testimony by the deadline:
  - Testimony for HB1431 must be uploaded to the MGA website between 8 AM and 6 PM on Tuesday, February 25th at 6pm
  - First time submitting testimony? Look through these helpful [Video Tutorials](#)

Here are some additional materials that may be useful:

-  **2025 Maryland Legislative Agenda - English.pdf**
- [Factsheet: Trump's Rescission of Protected Areas Policies Undermines Safety for All - NILC](#)
- [Statement for the Record: Mass Deportations - NILC](#)
- [Trump's Day 1 Executive Orders: Unconstitutional, Illegal, and Cruel - NILC](#)
- [2021 NILC Statement on New DHS Memo Safeguarding Protected Areas from Enforcement](#)
- [Youth/Homeless Focus: Protected Spaces No Longer Safe from Immigration Enforcement - National Network for Youth](#)

If you have any questions, please call Ninfa Amador-Hernandez at 240-485-6126

Thank you for making your voice heard! - CASA Policy Team

---

HB1431\_Ann Rubin\_FWA  
Feb. 25, 2025  
Columbia, MD 21045  
Feb. 25, 2025

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1431**

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

House Judiciary Committee

February 27, 2025

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

I am pleased to offer a **favorable testimony in strong support of HB 1431- State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act).**

I am Co-chair of the Howard County Indivisible Immigration Action Team and in that capacity I have come to understand some of the many issues facing undocumented people. Undergirding my belief in social justice are my Jewish values of caring for and befriending the ‘stranger’ because my people were strangers in many lands and at many times in history.

In recent years, the erosion of data privacy protections has led to increased fear and uncertainty within immigrant communities. The Maryland Data Privacy Act, HB1431, takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented.

Access to sensitive data and facilities requires a valid court-issued warrant. Personal information cannot be shared with federal immigration authorities without due legal process. This legislation is crucial not only for protecting the privacy of all Maryland residents but also for fostering trust between immigrant communities and public institutions. By clearly delineating the boundaries of federal immigration enforcement within our state, we promote the values of dignity, safety, and fairness.

In 2021, this legislature took action to protect immigrants and safeguard their sensitive data. Once again I call on this legislature to act.<sup>1</sup>

**I urge the committee to provide a favorable report on HB 1431.**

---

<sup>1</sup>[2021. MGA HB23](#)

# **HB 1431\_AFSCME3\_FWA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Denise Gilmore

Position: FWA



1410 Bush Street (Suite A)  
Baltimore, MD 21230  
Phone: 410-547-1515  
Email: [info@afscmemd.org](mailto:info@afscmemd.org)

Patrick Moran – President

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**HB 1431 – State and Local Agencies – Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law –  
Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)  
Judiciary Committee  
February 27, 2025**

**Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENT**

AFSCME Council 3 represents 45,000 state, county, and municipal employees across Maryland, many of whom are immigrants. Among our union's core values is to progress social justice with all we do, and to stand up for the most vulnerable around us. The Maryland Data Privacy Act takes critical steps to restore trust by ensuring that state and local agencies, as well as law enforcement entities, are prohibited from sharing personal information, facial recognition data, and access to public facilities with federal immigration authorities unless a valid warrant is presented. This important policy clarification also helps to ensure that no state or local employees have ambiguity about their job assignments or expectations when it comes to interacting with federal immigration authorities.

Under state and local personnel codes, employees are already subject to discipline, up to and including termination, when they are insubordinate or willfully violating policy. We are uneasy about setting up a parallel disciplinary provision in this bill, and don't believe it is necessary. As such, we request the following amendment:

**AFSCME Amendment to HB 1431**

**Pg. 4: Remove (E) by Striking lines 25-27 in their entirety.**

**Justification:** State employees already have a disciplinary procedure, including termination, in the State Personnel and Pensions (SPP) Article. We believe it strengthens the bill to not create a separate, parallel structure in this bill.

AFSCME Council 3 is proud to support HB 1431, and we urge the committee to provide a Favorable Report with this amendment. Thank you for your consideration.

# **HB1431-JUD-SWA.pdf**

Uploaded by: Nina Themelis

Position: FWA





BRANDON M. SCOTT  
MAYOR

*Office of Government Relations  
88 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401*

**HB 1431**

February 12, 2025

**TO:** Members of the Judiciary (H) Committee

**FROM:** Nina Themelis, Director of the Mayor's Office of Government Relations

**RE:** House Bill 1431 State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

**POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS**

Chair Judiciary (H), Vice Chair Judiciary (H), and Members of the Committee, please be advised that the Baltimore City Administration (BCA) **support with amendments** House Bill (HB) 1431.

HB 1431 introduces significant updates to existing law by expanding restrictions on data access beyond law enforcement agencies to include all state and local government units. Under previous law, these restrictions applied to law enforcement databases; however, HB 1431 now extends these limitations to all governmental units managing personal data.

Current law requires that access be denied to individuals who are seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law and who do not provide a valid warrant. The bill now updates the law to require state and local government units, like the City of Baltimore, to actively prevent the release of personal information to any individual seeking or appearing to be seeking it for immigration enforcement purposes, even if they do not explicitly state their intent.

Furthermore, the bill adds a new provision establishing penalties for employees who violate these restrictions, including potential termination for unauthorized disclosures. These changes aim to enhance privacy protections and prevent unauthorized use of state and local government records for immigration enforcement while imposing stricter enforcement mechanisms.

However, while the Department of Human Resources (“DHR”) supports the bill’s intent, several provisions present operational and financial challenges that require legislative amendments to ensure successful implementation.

HB 1431 is a progressive step toward protecting personal data and limiting federal overreach in immigration enforcement. However, for employers like Baltimore City, the bill’s provisions create operational, financial, and legal challenges that require critical amendments:

- Establish a state funding mechanism to assist local agencies with IT upgrades, compliance measures, and reporting.
- Provide an implementation grace period to ensure agencies have sufficient time to comply without immediate penalties.

With these amendments, HB 1431 can achieve its intended privacy protections while ensuring that Baltimore City DHR and other local agencies can effectively comply without financial or operational strain.

The BCA respectfully requests a **support with amendments** report on HB 1431 for these reasons.

# **HB-1431-250225-Fed-Immigration-Law-restrictions.pdf**

Uploaded by: Christine Hunt

Position: UNF

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers  
1014 Dockser Drive  
Crownsville, MD 21032

2/25/2025

Maryland General Assembly  
Members of the Judiciary Committee  
Annapolis, MD

RE: [HB1431](#): State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act)

Dear Delegates,

We oppose HB 1431 and request that you reject this bill.

We support Delegate Brian Chisholm's logic on this issue:

"The bill undermines collaboration between local and federal law enforcement agencies, which is crucial for investigating and apprehending individuals who have committed serious crimes. "

Maryland should support the expulsion of those who are here illegally and co-operate with federal authorities, in all ways, to do so. The bill does not put Marylanders first.

We expect you to PUT MARYLANDERS FIRST and make that the criteria for approving or rejecting any and all bills.

Sincerely,

Christine Hunt and Jay Crouthers

## **Written Testimony for HB 1431\_ State and Local Ag**

Uploaded by: Trudy Tibbals

Position: UNF

Written Testimony for **HB 1431**: State and Local Agencies - Enforcement of Federal Immigration Law - Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data Privacy Act) - Please **VOTE NO** on this bill.

Dear Judiciary Committee:

The bill reads "...Altering certain provisions of law **to require a law enforcement agency** or a unit of State or local government **to deny access to certain databases** by certain individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law, under certain circumstances; requiring the Attorney General to enforce certain provisions of the Act; and providing that a State employee who violates certain provisions of the Act is subject to certain discipline..."

HB1431 limits federal immigration enforcement by restricting access to state and local government databases.

The bill undermines collaboration between local and federal law enforcement agencies, which is crucial for investigating and apprehending individuals who have committed serious crimes.

HB 1431 goes directly against President Trump's EO regarding illegal immigrants in our country. And our LEOs are going to be the ones who suffer for it. I do not want illegal immigrant criminals near my home and places that I frequent with my family. Since foreign immigrants entered our country illegally, we have seen an increase in crime, especially in violent crime and rape and sexual assault, an increase in drugs, especially Fentanyl, and an increase in Fentanyl related deaths, just to name a few of the negative effects. I'm not against all immigration. I have friends whose families have immigrated legally to this country. I simply want illegal immigrant criminals removed from our country and returned to their country of origin. They have committed a crime by entering our country illegally and should be returned to their countries of origin.

Please **VOTE NO** on this bill.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals, A Very Concerned Mother of 3 and Frederick County, MD Resident



## **hb1431.pdf**

Uploaded by: Will Vormelker

Position: UNF

HON. STACY A. MAYER  
CIRCUIT COURT  
JUDGE  
BALTIMORE COUNTY  
CHAIR

HON. RICHARD SANDY  
CIRCUIT COURT  
JUDGE  
FREDERICK COUNTY  
VICE-CHAIR



KELLEY O'CONNOR  
ASSISTANT STATE COURT  
ADMINISTRATOR  
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS  
AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
P: (410) 260-1560

SUZANNE PELZ, ESQ.  
SNR. GOVT. RELATIONS AND  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER  
P: (410)260-1523

## MARYLAND JUDICIAL COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

### MEMORANDUM

**TO:** House Judiciary Committee  
**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523  
**RE:** House Bill 1431  
State and Local Agencies – Enforcement of Federal Immigration  
Law – Restrictions on Access to Information (Maryland Data  
Privacy Act)  
**DATE:** February 12, 2025  
(2/27)  
**POSITION:** Oppose

---

The Maryland Judiciary opposes House Bill 1431 to the extent it would apply to the Judiciary. The Judiciary has no opposition or position in the event that it does not.

This bill would require the Judiciary to implement technology or other record keeping procedures regarding requests from certain persons seeking access to certain databases. Given the breadth of the bill's language, it would appear to apply to persons using databases available to the general public for informational purposes. The Judiciary does not currently screen or have the capacity to screen those persons to determine whether they fall within the classification the bill intends to prohibit.

This bill also requires that each unit of state government maintain a record of each request seeking access to a database, record or information and report the same to the Office of the Attorney General. Further, it may require the Judiciary to ask an individual's motivation for seeking a record and whether it is for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law. Judicial records are public records and inquiry into an



individual's reason for accessing a judicial record is antithetical to the transparency of public records.

cc. Hon. Lorig Charkoudian  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor

# **HB1431-JUD\_MACo\_LOI.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sarah Sample

Position: INFO



**MARYLAND**  
*Association of*  
**COUNTIES**

## House Bill 1431

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

MACo Position:

To: Judiciary Committee

### **LETTER OF INFORMATION**

Date: February 27, 2025

From: Sarah Sample

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) takes **NO POSITION** on **HB 1431** but offers this **LETTER OF INFORMATION**. Counties do not take issue with the intent of the bill to protect the private information of an individual that is not legally required to be shared with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), or any other federal agency.

HB 1431 appears to strengthen existing standards regarding the protection of information that shall be denied in an instance where immigration enforcement may be the cause for the request. To that end, the challenges the bill presents are numerous and this letter of information is intended to add to the conversation as lawmakers consider next steps, if inclined to advance this bill. Broadly, county concerns touch on three areas which cover bookended penalties, perception of intent, and responsibility for fines.

The intersections of federal, state, and local immigration laws have been the subject of extended and nuanced debate across governments and the courts. The areas of concern cover constitutionality, enforcement, information handling, sanctuary policies, and court procedure to name just a few. Under more common circumstances, counties can appreciate that the letter of the law will not always foresee perfectly the contradiction, consequences, and potential new liabilities additional requirements can provoke in the courts. Unfortunately, the reality of the current political and policy climate around immigration presents a high likelihood that federal and state agencies are proactively and aggressively intending to hold even good faith actors accountable for errors. Any faltering, intentional or not, as these policies are rapidly evolving and competing has the potential to result in increased claims and significant disruption to local government workforces and functions.

#### *Bookended Penalties*

The bill creates a counter penalty in conjunction with penalties that currently exist under federal law, thus creating a scenario where an accidental violation is bookended with consequences regardless of the denial or disclosure of information. The area of HB 1431 that

elicits the most urgent and immediate concern that could lead to penalties is the new language that says, "OR APPEARS TO BE seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law." This explicitly exposes local government employees to potential liability for making guesses in a necessarily gray area. It is important to note that these challenges will not only exist for official record custodians but any employees and managers across all divisions with access to an electronic database.

The consequence in its most basic form is that if an employee does not provide data, pending certain circumstances, they can be charged with a violation of federal law. If an employee does provide information because it didn't appear to be private or for the purpose of immigration enforcement, they could be subject to a \$1000 fine and, depending on how the bill is interpreted, also have their employment terminated. This illustrates that exposure to penalties is not limited to the circumstances outlined in HB 1431 but is extended to both federal and state agencies. Without all employees understanding the exact nuances of the rapidly evolving intersections of local, state, and federal immigration law there will, very likely, be no way to avoid increased liability.

### *Perception of Intent*

It is unclear how an employee of a county or state government could accurately perceive the intention and nature of a request to determine whether a request for data is going to be used for immigration. This is especially a concern in situations where the identification and expression of intent of an ICE agent is not required. This determination can also be complicated by the fact that law enforcement can misrepresent their intentions when making certain requests. The bill almost assumes a scenario where all information would be denied without a warrant. This is even more precarious when the information requested is required to be disclosed without a warrant.

As an example, this could be the case for a request of an I-9 document of an employee. When immigration enforcement agents work in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Labor, the requirement to hand off I-9 information is mandatory, with or without notice or a warrant. An employee who fails to cooperate with federal law enforcement in this instance is likely to be found in violation of federal law. This could expose the employee to civil and/or criminal liability, if in the process of withholding, their refusal is misconstrued as a false statement to federal law enforcement or obstructing a federal investigation. This is particularly the case in instances where the employee's expression to withhold information is considered a misrepresentation of whether the record exists.

### *Responsibility for Fines*

Another concern is the lack of clarity around the penalty provision. It is unclear who is subject to the \$1000 fine; specifically, whether it is the individual who is thought to have erroneously produced the data or the employer. To illustrate that concern, several interpretations are listed below:

- employee shall pay one fine for one violation
- employer shall pay one fine on behalf of the employee for one violation
- they both shall pay two separate fines for the same violation
- the employer shall pay two fines for one violation on behalf of the employee and employer

Any number of those scenarios is complicated by the potential that one conversation could lead to a denial or disclosure of multiple pieces of information. In those instances, it is unclear whether the federal- or state-level violation would constitute one or more penalties based on the number of records or pieces of information unlawfully shared or denied.

### *Conclusion*

The question of how best to ensure that privacy is maintained for all employees and detainees of a local government is an important one to address. Due to the current and shifting guidance around immigration enforcement laws and regulations, HB 1431– without clarification – has the potential to further complicate an already difficult situation and fall short of its overall intended goal.

Local governments will continue to ensure public records standards remain high and appropriate compliance is managed. Counties look forward to continuing this important conversation, not just around HB 1431, but as this issue evolves more broadly.