

**Testimony on House Bill 711 – Favorable
HB711 – Data Privacy – Consumer Data, Public Records, and Message Switching System (Data
Privacy Act)
Economic Matters Committee
February 24, 2026**

Dear Honorable Chair Valderrama, Vice Chair Charkoudian, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Catherine Morrison, and I am a **resident of Marriottsville**, Maryland. I am writing in support of **HB711 – the Data Privacy Act**.

My data is MINE. I freely give the state information about myself, in turn for services the state provides. I do not give the state information to share with the federal government, third parties, private companies....not anyone. It makes no sense that current loopholes in Maryland's privacy laws allow my sensitive personal data collected by state agencies to be funneled to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) or anyone through third-party data brokers, law enforcement data-sharing networks, and automated license plate readers. This turns state agencies into pipelines for exposing my private information to unauthorized organizations.

This bill closes those loopholes by preventing third parties from sharing driver data with ICE, stopping records requests from being used to target immigrants, and protecting geolocation and digital data from federal exploitation. These are commonsense reforms that ensure Maryland's privacy laws live up to their intended purpose. Which federal agency will be the next that attempts to use the loophole?

When personal data is misused, everyone's privacy is at risk—not just immigrants'.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report on HB711**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Cathy Morrison