

Testimony on House Bill 711 – Favorable

HB711 – Data Privacy –

Economic Matters Committee

February 19, 2026

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

My name is **Mary from Leonardtown**, Maryland. I am writing in support of **HB711 – the Data Privacy Act**.

We should not fear our government from taking unauthorized information.

I support HB711 because current loopholes in Maryland's privacy laws allow sensitive personal data collected by state agencies to be funneled to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) through third-party data brokers, law enforcement data-sharing networks, and automated license plate readers. This turns state agencies into pipelines for federal immigration enforcement, undermining community trust and endangering families.

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.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Mary