



BILL NO: Senate Bill 932
TITLE: Consumer Protection - Social Media Platforms - Display of User Location
COMMITTEE: Economic Matters – cross over
HEARING DATE: April 1, 2026
POSITION: **OPPOSE**

The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence (MNADV) is the state domestic violence coalition that works to lead diverse community partners toward the common purpose of reducing the occurrence and impact of intimate partner violence. **MNADV urges an unfavorable report on SB 932.**

Despite its good intentions, SB 932 is the quintessential bill with unintended negative consequences. Efforts were made after it passed second reader in the Senate, but despite the amendments adopted, we must continue to oppose this bill as dangerous to domestic violence survivors and to children.

Senate Bill 932 would require social media platforms to display the general geographic location of adult users to other users in Maryland, with some exceptions. This requirement would compel platforms to publicly disclose sensitive information about individuals who may have legitimate reasons to keep their location private, in particular survivors of domestic violence whose locations are not known to their abuser. Many users, not just domestic violence survivors depend on the ability to interact online without revealing their geographic location. Mandating disclosure of location information could expose these individuals to harassment, stalking, or other safety risks. For persistent domestic violence abusers, even the state of the person posting may offer them enough information to glean the whereabouts of their victim. Persistent abusers can be the most dangerous as they are fixated on a particular person at any cost.

In addition, the exemption of minors offers default information to predators who can assume that any time a location is not revealed, the person posting is a minor. This unintentionally offers important information to predators. The exceptions created by the amendment that anyone participating in the Address Confidentiality Program will not have to have their location

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disclosed does not make this any less dangerous. Only a small number of survivors use this program.

We cannot opine on the technical feasibility or complications of this bill. We agree that informing people when a foreign bot is engaging with them would be good information.

For all of the above reasons, **MNADV urges an unfavorable report on SB 932.**

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