

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 0711 - Data Privacy - Consumer Data, Public Records, and
Message Switching System (Data Privacy Act)**

Chair Kriselda Valderrama & Members of the Economic Matters Committee

February 20, 2026

Chair Valderrama and Members of the Economic Matters Committee, my name is Judy Karasik and I reside at 2016 Luzerne Avenue, Silver Spring, MD 20910. I have lived in Silver Spring since 2001 and, earlier, resided in Chevy Chase from 1958 to 1971. I am a registered voter and American citizen.

I write to strongly support HB 0711, an essential complement to HB 0264, the Maryland Data Privacy and Protection Act of 2026.

While HB0264 closes loopholes that enable ICE to obtain a vast amount of personal data they would otherwise need a warrant or subpoena to obtain directly, HB0711 protects *consumer data* from being sold to the most lawless security force in American history.

A shockingly vast range of data is available for a price from third-party brokers. These companies are now making huge profits by selling access to their massive databases of personal information.

This data enables ICE to track individuals without criminal histories -- letting ICE violate basic American protections: due process, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and protection from unreasonable searches and seizures.

It's not just immigrants who are being targeted. ICE is actively collecting data on U.S. citizens like myself and my neighbors who are objecting to the misconduct of this rogue federal agency.

Who knows? ICE could be collecting data on you.

This, I fear, given the ubiquity of personal data and the rapidly developing net of AI, is only the beginning of the troubles this nation will face with the weakness of our data protection.

I hope you will support HB0711.