



CITY TAKOMA OF PARK MARYLAND

**House Bill 711 - Data Privacy - Consumer Data, Public Records, and Message Switching System (Data Privacy Act)
House Economic Matters Committee, February 24, 2026
Support**

The City of Takoma Park supports and urges favorable consideration of this bill. House Bill 711 aims to protect Marylanders by closing driver data loopholes, stopping backdoor ICE data requests, and protecting location and digital data.

The City of Takoma Park is a municipality of almost 18,000 people living within 2.4 square miles in Montgomery County, along the Washington, D.C. border. We are a highly diverse community and approximately a third of our residents were born outside of the U.S. Our city has worked diligently to build trust between our local police department and our immigrant community so that residents feel comfortable reporting crime and calling on our local police for help.

Without additional data privacy protections, unchecked data sharing can continue to fuel deportations, family separation, and racial profiling. No one should fear that everyday interactions with the state could lead to an interaction with ICE. When data is misused, everyone's privacy is at risk and mistrust of state agencies – and by extension, local agencies – worsens.

We strongly urge a favorable report on House Bill 711.

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