

Data Privacy – Consumer Data, Public Records, and Message Switching System (Data Privacy Act)

Favorable SB-0504

Senate Finance Committee  
February 26, 2026

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes and Members of the Committee,

My name is Deborah (“Debbie”) Shulman, and I am a 31-year resident of Olney, Maryland. I am writing in strong support of SB-0504 the Data Privacy Act.

I care deeply about data privacy and do not believe my personal information should be shared with Homeland Security or ICE. I do not want federal immigration authorities targeting me because they tracked my license plate while I was documenting an ICE event. This is happening because federal agencies have access to Motor Vehicle Administration data. People are being targeted because their names sound foreign. That is racial profiling.

I am grateful that my Guatemalan daughter-in-law took my son’s last name when they married. Otherwise, she could be profiled, even though she is a U.S. citizen. No Maryland resident should have to worry that routine state data collection could be used to endanger them or their family.

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

There should not be loopholes in data privacy protections. Our personal information has already been breached in too many ways. The State of Maryland has a responsibility to protect the people who live here. If this can affect one person, it can affect all of us — including members of this committee.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Committee to issue a favorable report on SB-0504

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Deborah Shulman  
Olney, Maryland