

**Testimony on Senate Bill 504 – Favorable
SB504 – Data Privacy – Consumer Data, Public Records, and Message Switching System (Data
Privacy Act)\
Finance Committee
February 26, 2026**

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

I am a resident of Howard County, Maryland and chair the Immigration Mobilization Committee of St. Ignatius Loyola Catholic Community Baltimore. I am writing in support of **SB504 – the Data Privacy Act.**

My support of legislation protecting Maryland's immigrant population is grounded in my faith, personal experience, and my role as citizen.

My faith calls upon me to recognize all people as children of God, entitled to dignity and care. Consistent with the teaching of the biblical prophets, the words of Jesus, and Catholic social teaching, my faith has led to my participation in parish immigration mobilization efforts. In addition to advocacy and direct ministry to others regardless of immigration status, we as a parish publicly witness and pray the Rosary at the Fallon Federal Building in Baltimore, for all immigrants, migrants and those in danger of deportation, especially those detained by to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) in that building.

I support SB504 because loopholes in Maryland's privacy laws allow sensitive personal data collected by state agencies to be funneled to 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 these third parties from sharing driver data with ICE, preventing 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 fulfill their purpose. When personal data is misused, everyone's privacy is at risk—not just that of immigrants. State agencies should not be a conduit for ICE.

While not an immigrant, I have had experience with my personally identifiable data being used in furtherance of a fraudulent application for Maryland Unemployment Insurance benefits--***while I was on leave from my employment with the State of Maryland to receive cancer treatment!*** It very much concerned me that the fraudsters had apparently obtained information that I was not able to work because of a very serious illness and used that information to file the application.

I also worked for approximately 22 years at the Social Security Administration in Woodlawn, Maryland. I can attest to the care with which the agency and its employees

protected beneficiary and applicant information. I was aghast that DOGE employees, and subsequently the Department of Homeland Security, reportedly obtained such data for the purpose of using it to identify individuals for immigration enforcement.

While the state of Maryland cannot act directly to protect data in federal databases, it can act to protect the data of everyone in Maryland whose data is stored in state databases, and prevent that data from being accessed, sold to data brokers and being used by ICE.

Based upon my work on behalf of immigrants, my experience with fraudulent use of my own personally identifiable information, and my long professional experience working for an agency charged with protection of some of the most sensitive information about individuals, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report on SB504**.

Thank you for your consideration.

Rosanne B. Hanratty
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