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Concerning **HB264**, Maryland Data Privacy and Protection Act of 2026 — **Favorable**

To the Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Government, Labor, and Elections Committee:

I urge you to give HB264, the Maryland Data Privacy and Protection Act of 2026, a favorable report and advance it to a floor vote.

One thing I've appreciated about the State of Maryland is its adoption of Data Minimization principles. The current political moment provides us with a severe example of how the storage of sensitive and identifying information beyond its necessity can make people vulnerable to bad actors. The same can be said for so many data leaks and hacks. As a trans person and political activist, and having seen others get hunted down by way of state data, I value data minimization as an essential privacy policy for all services. I would guess that the oncoming years of this federal administration will only sharpen its importance.

Thank you for doing this work of transforming Maryland for the better. I urge you to pass HB264 with a favorable report and ensure your colleagues pass it on the floor.

Solidarity,

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