

**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, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Laura Allison, and I am a resident of Lusby, Calvert County, Maryland. I am writing in support of **SB504 – the Data Privacy Act**.

I am writing to express my strong support for the Maryland Data Privacy Act (SB 504). In today's digital world, personal information is constantly collected, analyzed, and sold—often without individuals' knowledge or meaningful consent. Maryland residents deserve clear rights and protections over their personal data, and this legislation is an important step toward ensuring that privacy is respected and safeguarded.

The Maryland Data Privacy Act would give residents meaningful control over how their personal information is collected and used. By establishing rights such as the ability to access, correct, and delete personal data, the bill empowers individuals to understand and manage the information companies hold about them. These protections are increasingly necessary as more aspects of our daily lives—from health information to online activity—are tracked and monetized.

This legislation also promotes transparency and accountability. Companies that collect personal data should be responsible stewards of that information. Requiring clear privacy practices and responsible data handling helps prevent misuse, reduces the risk of data breaches, and builds trust between consumers and businesses.

Importantly, SB 504 positions Maryland as a leader in protecting residents in the digital age. Several states have begun adopting comprehensive privacy frameworks, and Maryland should ensure its residents receive strong, modern protections rather than falling behind.

Privacy is not a luxury—it is a fundamental expectation in a democratic society. The Maryland Data Privacy Act will help ensure that Marylanders' personal information is treated with the care and respect it deserves.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report on SB504**.

Sincerely,

Laura Allison  
Lusby, MD