

**SB0504 - SUPPORT**  
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## **SB0504 – Data Privacy - Consumer Data, Public Records, and Message Switching System (Data Privacy Act)**

Senate Finance Committee  
February 26, 2026

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

My name is William Mascioli. I have lived in Silver Spring, Maryland, for more than 40 years. Last year, a group of neighbors and I formed North Woodside Civil Resistance out of concern for the threat to our democracy and values posed by the actions of the Trump administration. I am writing to strongly support SB 0504, which would add essential modifications to existing laws governing the protection of personal records, such as the Maryland Online Privacy Act of 2024, Maryland Code, Commercial Law Article §§ 14-4701 through 14-4713, by, among other things, prohibiting their sale to a purchaser for the purpose of immigration enforcement.

Our data have become potential threats and instruments of control that must be safeguarded. Thankfully, this body has taken care to protect the sensitive information of everyone in our state through the 2021 Driver Privacy Act and the Online Data Privacy Act cited above.

Unfortunately, there is a lawless agency of the federal government bent on undermining all of these protections. As members of this body are well aware, ICE behaves as a law unto itself: Unidentified masked agents terrorize our communities with no regard for basic protections such as due process, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and protection from unreasonable searches and seizures. In furtherance of this travesty, ICE has made multimillion dollar contracts with third-party data brokers such as Lexis-Nexus, Palantir, Equifax, and even the spyware producer Paragon, all in an effort to satisfy Stephen Miller's cruel and seemingly insatiable appetite for deportations.

These companies are now making huge profits by selling access to their massive databases of personal information. SB0504 would limit the circumstances in which such third-party information brokers or message-switching systems like Nlets could sell consumer or state data to the most lawless "security" force in American history.

ICE's "rapists and murderers" and "worst of the worst" incantations fool no one. ICE chooses its targets using classic racial and employment profiling. They are even targeting law-abiding immigrants attending their court hearings. This is not a strategy to protect public safety; this is ethnic cleansing.

Nor is it only immigrants (and people who look like they might be immigrants) who are being targeted. ICE is actively collecting data on U.S. citizens like my neighbors and me at North Woodside Civil Resistance who are objecting to the misconduct of this rogue federal agency.

ICE agents' actions are a threat to our basic democratic freedoms. We do not need to make their job easier. Tightening up our private data protections with SB0504 would be an important step in the right direction. Accordingly, I urge a favorable report on SB0504 and thank you for your consideration.