

# **SB 932 Official Testimony of Senator Kevin M Harri**

Uploaded by: Kevin M. Harris

Position: FAV



THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**Official Sponsor Testimony in Support of SB 932: Consumer Protection – Social Media  
Platforms – Display of User Location  
Senator Kevin M, Harris**

Chair Beidle, Vice-Chair Hayes, and Members of the Senate Finance Committee.

During the age of social media, it has become increasingly evident that in order to increase platform engagement, social media companies continue to take advantage of and manipulate users through algorithms that keep them hooked. The algorithm is designed to be addictive, presenting users with divisive, polarized, and often, extremist content.

At the same time, we know that a large portion of the most extreme social media content come from pages that are not located in the United States. International actors are looking to profit from user engagement at the expense of public trust and democratic stability in the United States.

SB 932: Consumer Protection – Social Media Platforms – Display of User locations, requires a person operating a social media platform to display the general geographic location of content produced by adult users.

General geographic location refers to the user's city and country, not precise geolocation.

Further, SB 932 seeks to protect children by exempting minors from having to display their location.

SB 932 seeks to protect free speech while simultaneously empowering Marylanders to know where the content they are viewing originates. This bill will provide transparency for Marylanders so they can better assess whether the content they are viewing was created by good faith actors or by foreign entities.

SB 932 will protect our democratic institutions by helping social media users identify disinformation produced by international actors.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on SB 932.

# **Testimony in support of SB0932 - Consumer Protecti**

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

SB0932\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV

03/12/2026

Richard Keith Kaplowitz Frederick,  
MD 21703

**TESTIMONY ON SB#0932- POSITION: FAVORABLE**

**Consumer Protection - Social Media Platforms - Display of User Location**

**TO:** Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes, and members of the Finance Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#0932, **Consumer Protection - Social Media Platforms - Display of User Location**

This bill will protect social media users, especially minors, from misuse of the user's location data by bad actors.

Finding user locations on social media is vital for enhancing, connecting, and securing personal experiences. Key reasons include discovering nearby events/friends, ensuring personal safety, accessing localized information and discounts, and increasing engagement through geotagging, allowing for more relevant, personalized content. <sup>1</sup>

Here is a breakdown of why this is important to users:

- **Safety and Security**
- **Social Connection and Discovery**
- **Contextual Relevance and Personalization**
- **Convenience and Efficiency**
- **Access to Localized Offers**

With overseas actors and bots invading the social media space to influence opinions and politics this bill can equip social media users in Maryland with notifications of this foreign or unknown location sourcing information.

This bill will protect minors by requiring that a person that operates a social media platform may not display the general geographical location of a user who the person knows or has reason to know is a minor.

Overall, this important bill will require a person that operates a social media platform to display to State users of the social media platform the general geographical location of each adult user whose account is visible to the State user on the platform.

I hope current technology is capable of this and look forward to a full discussion of processes necessary to implement the required actions of this bill.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB#0932.**

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<sup>1</sup> Google AI Search "why find the location of users on social media is important to users"

**MDCC\_SB 932\_Unfavorable.pdf**

Uploaded by: Grason Wiggins

Position: UNF



## Senate Bill 932

**Position: Unfavorable**

Committee: Senate Finance

Date: March 11, 2026

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Founded in 1968, the Maryland Chamber of Commerce (“Maryland Chamber”) is a statewide coalition of more than 7,000 members working to develop and promote strong public policy that ensures sustained economic growth and opportunity for all Marylanders.

Senate Bill 932 (“SB 932”) would require social media platforms to display the general geographic location of adult users to other users in Maryland. Although described as a “general” location, this requirement would nonetheless compel platforms to publicly disclose sensitive information about individuals who may have legitimate reasons to keep their location private. Many users—including domestic violence survivors, journalists, public officials, and others—depend on the ability to interact online without revealing their geographic location. Mandating disclosure of location information could expose these individuals to harassment, stalking, or other safety risks.

In addition to privacy concerns, the bill would create significant technical and operational challenges for platforms. Social media services operate globally, and determining which users are interacting with Maryland residents—and dynamically adjusting location disclosures in real time—would require substantial new compliance infrastructure. This type of state-specific requirement could force companies to redesign core platform functions for a single jurisdiction, setting a precedent that could lead to a patchwork of inconsistent state regulations governing online services.

The bill also raises important legal and policy considerations. Requiring platforms to publicly disclose user location information may conflict with existing privacy expectations and could create liability risks if location data is inaccurate, outdated, or misused by other users. Furthermore, the proposal would treat any failure to comply as an unfair or deceptive trade practice under Maryland law, exposing companies to significant legal risk even in circumstances where compliance may be technically complex or impossible. **For these reasons, the Maryland Chamber respectfully requests an unfavorable report on SB 932.**

**PDF\_[MD] SB 932\_SM location\_TechNet.pdf**

Uploaded by: margaret durkin

Position: UNF

March 10, 2026

The Honorable Pam Beidle  
Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
Maryland Senate  
231 Taylor House Office Building  
6 Bladen Street  
Annapolis, MD 21401

*RE: SB 932 (Harris) - Consumer Protection - Social Media Platforms - Display of User Location - Unfavorable*

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of TechNet, I'm writing to share comments on SB 932.

TechNet is the national, bipartisan network of technology CEOs and senior executives that promotes the growth of the innovation economy by advocating a targeted policy agenda at the federal and 50-state level. TechNet's diverse membership includes 104 dynamic American businesses ranging from startups to the most iconic companies on the planet and represents five million employees and countless customers in the fields of information technology, artificial intelligence, e-commerce, the sharing and gig economies, advanced energy, transportation, cybersecurity, venture capital, and finance.

We believe that SB 932 violates consumer privacy by mandating social media platforms display to users the general geographical location of each adult user whose account is visible. Disclosing user location to other users – even at a general “city level” – could threaten users' physical safety, opening them up to harassment and intimidation by other users.

We are also concerned about the private right of action (PRA) in the bill. We believe that PRAs lead to frivolous lawsuits and that any enforcement should rest solely with the Attorney General. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to share our concerns on SB 932. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions.

Sincerely,



Margaret Durkin  
TechNet Executive Director, Pennsylvania & the Mid-Atlantic

**SB 932 CPD LOI.pdf**

Uploaded by: Hanna Abrams

Position: INFO

**CAROLYN A. QUATTROCKI**  
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**CARRIE J. WILLIAMS**  
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**STATE OF MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION**

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*Assistant Attorney General*

March 12, 2026

**TO:** The Honorable Pamela Beidle, Chair  
Finance Committee

**FROM:** Hanna Abrams, Assistant Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Division

**RE:** Senate Bill 932 – Consumer Protection – Social Media Platforms –  
Display of User Location (LETTER OF INFORMATION)

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The Consumer Protection Division of the Office of the Attorney General (the “Division”) submits this letter of information regarding Senate Bill 932 (“SB 932”). Senate Bill 932 requires social media platforms to display location information of adult users.

While the Division is not taking a position on the merits of SB 932, the Division notes that the knowledge standard included in SB 932 is “knows or has reason to know is a minor.” In the Maryland Online Data Privacy Act, the requisite knowledge standard regarding minors is “knew or should have known.”<sup>1</sup> The Division believes it would benefit companies to have a single knowledge standard in bills governing related subjects.

The Division also notes that HB 932’s enforcement provision eliminates the appeal rights provided by § 13-407. Similarly, HB 932’s exclusion of a private right of action under § 13-408 could prevent individuals from recovering when they suffer actual damages, leaving the Consumer Protection Division, with its limited resources, as the only entity able to bring an enforcement action for violations. Both of these provisions are necessary for a comprehensive consumer protection framework.

The Division respectfully requests that the Finance Committee consider the concerns discussed above when it considers SB 932.

**Cc:** Senator Kevin M. Harris  
Members, Finance Committee

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<sup>1</sup> See, e.g., Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-4707(4).