

HB1317_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
03/03/2026
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TESTIMONY ON HB#1317 - POSITION: FAVORABLE
State Government - Data-Sharing Agreements and Personal Identifying Information -
Prohibition and Reporting (Maryland Data Privacy and Federal Shield Act)

TO: Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and members of the Government, Labor and Elections Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1317, **State Government - Data-Sharing Agreements and Personal Identifying Information - Prohibition and Reporting (Maryland Data Privacy and Federal Shield Act)**

The Center for American Progress has shown how the Federal Government is working to misuse personal information. *The Trump Administration Is Using Americans' Sensitive Data To Build a Digital Watchtower*¹

The Trump administration's abusive efforts to repurpose millions of federal records and funnel them into a centralized government database represent a systemic shift toward a consolidation of informational power while obscuring public accountability; Congress must address this with a modern legal framework including clear rights and binding duties.

Maryland can no longer trust that the data-sharing agreements with the federal government will protect the data being shared from misuse. Restrictions on how any data is used or shared must be put in place to protect Maryland residents.

This bill will require the Attorney General to submit a certain report on data-sharing agreements between the State or a unit of local government and the federal government; and prohibiting certain individuals or agencies from providing certain information or assisting in the establishment or maintenance of a certain registry under certain circumstances.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1317.

¹ https://www.americanprogress.org/article/the-trump-administration-is-using-americans-sensitive-data-to-build-a-digital-watchtower/#:~:text=These%20practices%20have%20been%20linked%20to:%20*,government%20systems%20less%20fair%20and%20less%20accountable.