

From: Shubh Agnihotri
To: Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
01/23/2025
RE: SB107

Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, my name is Shubh Agnihotri and I am an undergraduate student at the University of Maryland, College Park. I serve on the Student Government Association as the director of Transportation & Infrastructure.

The political nature of my and my colleagues' positions in SGA makes us targets, especially for harassment and doxxing. Many of my colleagues have been doxxed for advocating for pro-Palestine causes, or simply for being associated with our movement as people of color. They have no recourse through student legal aid, university administration, law enforcement or student conduct because under current MD state law, no violation has occurred. Doxxing severely negatively impacted their mental health, academics, and perception of safety on our campus. In a place of higher education and learning, my colleagues were afraid to walk alone, and in some cases, be present on campus at all. University administration also closely monitors and surveils our activity as activists. Members of administration have asked me about plans I never spoke with them about, and I fear retaliation for exercising my first amendment rights. Nobody should have the right to exploit the information they have about students to cause them harm, regardless of their position of power.

The strength of the language and protections that Senator Henson's SB107 provides are crucial for students in this political climate. People should not be able to jeopardize Maryland students' safety, jobs or social life without consequences. Personally identifying information about young people should not be shared without their expressed consent. Marginalized communities more acutely face the brunt of the abuse and harassment that comes along with doxxing. We have a responsibility to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

I urge a favorable committee report on SB107. Thank you for your work on the Judicial Proceedings Committee and for your consideration of this testimony.