

SB107

Hello, my name is Mary Ella Jourdak. I am here today in strong support of SB107, an essential bill that will provide much-needed protections for Maryland students truly of all backgrounds against the deeply harmful practice of doxxing.

This is honestly a pretty common sense protection for students in our state and a practical evolution alongside the change of social environments that technology creates, especially when it is used in nefarious ways. Doxxing has become an increasingly dangerous tool for harassment, intimidation, and violence, and students, particularly those advocating for social causes or in underserved or marginalized groups, are especially vulnerable to targeted attacks that expose their personal information online.

I have personally experienced doxxing for anti-racism advocacy work as an adult, and it was a truly frightening ordeal that still echos through my life in ways that are unsettling and disturbing. Especially in light of how students are continuing to become targets of fascistic practices by our federal and executive branches of government, we need this step towards protecting our students here in Maryland.

I urge you to prioritize student safety and find a favorable report for SB107. Thank you for your time and consideration, and for your efforts to making Maryland a safer state for all students.