

IndivisibleHoCoMD



TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

SB 8 - Criminal Law - Identity Fraud - Artificial Intelligence and Deep-fake Representation

POSITION: Favorable

by: Christine Lemyze, Defend Democracy Team Lead, Indivisible Howard County

Date: March 31, 2026

On behalf of our 1800+ Indivisible Howard County members, I am writing in support of SB 8. IndivisibleHoCoMD is an informal group of citizens in Howard County, MD, registered with the Indivisible Project's national network of local grassroots groups. We believe in fairness, tolerance, inclusion, and democracy.

This bill will prohibit anyone from taking another person's personal identifying information without consent in order to cause harm or harass or intimidate/ threaten that person. It also prohibits anyone from knowingly using or sending an image or a video that is indistinguishable from the person's real image in order to impersonate that person to gain something of value or to cause harm. Finally, this bill will impose meaningful penalties for that behavior, which is essential if we truly want to deter those activities.

This is a common sense bill, which will protect all Marylanders and which needs to be enacted with a sense of urgency.

Indivisible Howard County, representing 1800+ citizens in Maryland, urges a favorable report on SB 8.