

Dear Chair and senate Judiciary Committee Members,

Please oppose HB1222 is a pro-criminal, anti-public safety bill that prioritizes shielding violent offenders over protecting Maryland communities. Here's why this bill must be opposed:

1. Protects Criminals Over Law-Abiding Citizens

This bill would require Maryland correctional facilities and law enforcement to ignore active immigration detainer requests for individuals convicted of violent crimes.

Instead of transferring dangerous criminals to ICE, Maryland would release them back into the community, endangering innocent people. This is unconstitutional.

2. Makes Maryland a Sanctuary for Violent Offenders

By terminating existing immigration enforcement agreements (such as 287(g)) by July 1, 2025, HB1222 ensures that local law enforcement cannot cooperate with ICE to remove violent criminals from our streets.

This creates a safe haven for repeat offenders, gang members, and other dangerous individuals.

3. Undermines Public Safety & Endangers Marylanders

Violent criminals should not be protected from deportation. HB1222 would allow dangerous offenders—including those convicted of murder, rape, and assault—to walk free instead of being deported.

Ignoring ICE detainer requests means that violent offenders will remain in Maryland communities rather than being removed from the country.

4. Burdens Law Enforcement & Undermines Their Authority

HB1222 forces Maryland law enforcement to cut ties with federal immigration enforcement, making it harder to track and remove dangerous individuals.

This bill restricts the ability of local law enforcement agencies to protect their communities and forces them to release violent offenders against their better judgment.

5. Increases Crime & Hurts Victims

When violent criminals are released instead of deported, they often reoffend. HB1222 would directly contribute to higher crime rates in Maryland.

Victims of violent crimes deserve justice, not policies that protect their attackers from deportation.

Conclusion: HB1222 Must Be Defeated

This bill puts politics over public safety by prioritizing the protection of violent criminal offenders over Maryland residents. Lawmakers should focus on removing dangerous individuals—not sheltering them.

Therefore, I am unfavorable to the bill HB1222.

Please oppose this bill.

Respectfully,

Wei Yan