

Maureen Wambui

7827 Rolling View Ave, Nottingham, MD, 21236

Maureen.w.m.2030@gmail.com

03/24/2025

Maryland Senate Judiciary Proceedings Committee

Maryland General Assembly, Annapolis, MD 21401

### **Testimony in Support of SB0828 - Protecting Sensitive Locations Act**

Hearing Date: March 26th, 2025

Chairperson and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

My name is Maureen Wambui, and I am a proud Immigrant, Parent, Community advocate and resident of Legislative District 8 in Maryland. I am submitting testimony in **strong support of SB0828- Protecting Sensitive Locations Act**, I believe this legislation is essential to ensuring that all Maryland residents, regardless of immigration status, can access critical public services without fear or intimidation.

SB0828 is a necessary step toward safeguarding the integrity of our public schools, libraries, healthcare facilities, and courthouses. These locations serve as pillars of community support, providing education, medical care, and legal assistance. If individuals fear immigration enforcement at these locations, they may avoid seeking necessary services, ultimately harming not only themselves but also the broader community.

This bill provides a clear and reasonable framework by directing the Maryland Attorney General to establish guidelines that limit immigration enforcement activities in these essential locations. It ensures that non-public areas remain protected unless an enforcement officer has a valid judicial warrant or there is an exigent circumstance. Furthermore, it upholds Maryland's commitment to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all its residents.

Protecting these spaces is not only a moral imperative but also a practical one. Children must feel safe attending school, families must be able to seek healthcare without hesitation, and individuals must be able to access our judicial system without fear of detention. By passing SB0828, Maryland will reinforce its values of justice, equity, and community well-being.

I urge the committee to vote in favor of SB0828 and to advance this critical legislation to protect our most vulnerable residents. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Wambui.

