

Testimony on House Bill – Favorable
HB1018 Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities – Minimum
Mandatory Standards
House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
February 12, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the Committee,

I am writing to offer favorable testimony in support of **HB1018** Correctional Services – Immigration Detention Facilities – Minimum Mandatory Standards.

Prior to moving to Maryland in 2022, I lived in Minneapolis for 25 years. I have watched in horror as my former community has been terrorized by ICE. My friends there tell me the situation is much worse than what is being reported in the media. ICE agents have repeatedly ignored the rule of law and the civil rights guaranteed to all US residents in the Constitution, including undocumented immigrants. And once ICE has captured individuals and detained them, these individuals are being stripped of their IDs and phones. In Minnesota, individuals are also ejected from the Whipple Federal Building without coats into sub-zero temperatures.

Maryland has the opportunity to require standards of behavior that respect any individual detained as a human being by adopting minimum requirements for detention facilities as outlined in HB1018. It is well-documented that the great majority of individuals detained by ICE do not have any criminal record, and no legal basis or justification exists for arresting them.

I urge the House Government, Labor, and Elections Committee to issue **a favorable report** on HB 1017.

Thank you.

Submitted by:
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