

Testimony on House Bill – Favorable
HB1017 Correctional Services - Private Immigration Detention Facilities - Zoning
Requirement
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 **HB1017** Correctional Services – Private Immigration Detention Facilities – Zoning Requirement.

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 it 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.

Maryland has the opportunity to create guardrails for ICE activity by adopting specific zoning requirements and restrictions for private detention facilities as outlined in HB1017. Private detention centers create fear and distrust in our community making people afraid to go to work, take their children to school, and shop for basic necessities.

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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