

**Oral testimony in support of HB403 - 2020  
Immigration Enforcement – Public Schools, Hospitals, and  
Courthouses – Policies**

My name is Holly Syrrakos and I live in Takoma Park. I am speaking in support of House Bill 403.

I represent Takoma Park Mobilization, an advocacy organization with more than 1,700 members in the Takoma Park-Silver Spring area. Our part of Montgomery County has a high population density that includes a large number of immigrants.

HB403 directs the Attorney General to develop guidelines for use by public schools, hospitals and courthouses to establish policies restricting cooperation with federal immigration authorities, thereby making these places more accessible.

Fearing their own deportation that of family members, immigrant residents of Maryland have hesitated to allow their children to participate fully at school, have avoided seeking healthcare, and have avoided participation in our justice system. All Maryland residents should be safe in our public spaces.

I urge you to support HB403. It ensures greater civic participation for all Maryland residents, making us all safer. Thank you.