

Amy Waychoff
SB085
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
Opposed

February 9, 2021

My name is Amy Waychoff, and I have lived in Montgomery County for over 33 years. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to provide testimony on SB085. This legislation would set up a Governor's Office of Immigrant Affairs that would administer a costly "network of neighborhood-based opportunity centers" to provide immigration services to illegal and legal aliens. It is clear from the language of the bill that the main focus of the advocacy provided by this office would be for illegal aliens. Setting up such an office would be just one more example of the Maryland legislature's attempt to make the state a magnet for more illegal aliens. The more free services provided for illegal aliens, the greater the incentive for illegal aliens to make Maryland their home. This in turn results in higher costs of living, reduced job availability, lower wages, and higher crime rates. These costs, both in terms of the economy and increased crime, would be borne by MD citizens. Most of the services proposed for the Governor's Office of Immigrant Affairs are not being offered to citizens of the state as a whole, so providing them to illegal aliens is unfair. Therefore, I strongly oppose SB085 and recommend an unfavorable report.

Sincerely,

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