

ORHoCo Testimony on the Maryland Trust Act – SB99/HB304

Dear Maryland State Delegation,

We are presenting this testimony on behalf of Our Revolution Howard County (ORHoCo), the county chapter of an organization inspired by the political and social messages of Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT). We fight for values and policies covering climate-change, health care, and economic and racial justice that focus on the needs of our neighbors, co-workers, and working families, particularly in this time of Covid.

Along with our 20+ partners represented by the Howard County Coalition for Immigrant Justice (HCCIJ), we present this in support of the Maryland Trust Act SB99/HB304, which will end police partnership with ICE (U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement) and other federal agencies. We believe the passing of this bill will make Marylanders safer by improving relationships with law enforcement and other state agencies. Among other things, this would allow for undocumented immigrants – and their documented family members – to be more willing to report crimes.

Currently the following jurisdictions have passed TRUST policies: Anne Arundel County (cancelled its 287g and GSA programs), Baltimore City, Baltimore County, Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Annapolis, Berwyn Heights, Brentwood, Cheverly, Colmar Manor, Edmonston, Forest Heights, Greenbelt, Hyattsville, Mount Rainier, Rockville, Riverdale Park and Takoma Park.

It is clear from this that Maryland voters support a Trust Act and do not want our precious local dollars being expended on federal law enforcement that targets immigrants, Muslims, and many others. Let's send a clear message that the hateful policies of former President Trump are not welcome in the great state of Maryland.

Please support the bill SB99/HB304 as written.

Thank you.

- Kathleen Uy, ORHoCo steering committee member and representative to HCCIJ
- Paul J. Baicich, ORHoCo Chair

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