

House Judiciary Committee

House Building, Room 101

6 Bladen St.

Annapolis, MD 21401

Delegates,

I am writing in opposition to House Bills HB 15 and HB 23.

My premise is that our laws should be written to do what is best for our Maryland and US citizens. Our citizens should be treated equally under the law and there should not be special exceptions, especially special exceptions favoring illegal non-citizens.

If Maryland directs tax dollars and laws favorable to illegal aliens, we will get more illegal aliens coming to Maryland.

More workers willing to work for lower wages will put downward pressure on the wages on American Citizens and Legal immigrants.

Right now, schools are overcrowded. Servicing students remotely and in person put strain on school systems.

More people needing housing jacks up the cost of rents.

Most importantly, there is the safety issue. There have been high profile brutal murders in Baltimore, Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties. Whatever the crime rates by illegals, however low you may believe the crime rates to be, there are too many!

Special services like the services provided by the Governor's Office of Immigrant Affairs are unavailable to long standing US Citizens. Maryland taxpayers must have their taxes go to help Maryland citizens, not people who should not be here without going through the proper process.

HB 23 also gives special rights to illegal aliens. The Bill prohibits Immigration Officers from using databases containing Facial Recognition and other bio-metric data. Other law enforcement can still use these databases, including investigations involving US Citizens. There is no good reason to prohibit immigration officers from doing their duty using these tools.

Thank you,

Tony Ristaino

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