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January 25, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in favor of the Universal Representation bill (SB317). If approved and enacted, this measure would mark a huge and much needed step towards equal justice for all who live here in Maryland.

SB317 specifically ensures that hundreds of immigrants who are in detention here in Maryland and facing possible deportation would have access to qualified and committed legal counsel to represent them in removal proceedings. This measure would also ensure legal counsel for Maryland residents who are detained outside our state. In addition, SB317 includes provisions for community-based support for the families of individuals who have been detained or at risk of detention.

SB317 is community-oriented, family-friendly measure that will greatly benefit many of our fellow Marylanders, and I strongly urge each of you to please give it your fairest and fullest consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Cullen

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