

Amy Waychoff
SB 088
Judicial Proceedings Committee
Opposed

January 27, 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 SB 088. I am opposed to this bill because it would prevent cooperation and information-sharing between local officials and federal immigration authorities. It would prohibit agreements such as the 287g program, which provides a safe method of detaining *criminal* illegal aliens in local jails until ICE officers can secure the individuals for deportation. Such sanctuary policies conflict with federal law, including the 1996 Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act. This bill would turn Maryland into one of the most egregious sanctuary states in the country.

Sanctuary policies cost lives, cost billions of dollars, and are patently unfair to citizens and legal immigrants. Sanctuary states become magnets for more illegal immigration. In Montgomery County, which expanded its sanctuary policies in 2019, at least eight illegal aliens were charged with committing sex crimes in just over a month. The number one priority of government is to keep its citizens safe. SB 088 would do just the opposite.

Sincerely,

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