

Hearing Date: March 3, 2021

Joan Roache  
402 14<sup>th</sup> St.  
Ocean City, MD 21842

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB16/SB478  
Correctional Services - Immigration Detention - Prohibition (Dignity Not Detention Act)

Dear Chair Clippinger and Members of the Judiciary Committee:

My name is Joan Roache, and I live in Worcester County, Maryland. I have lived in Maryland since 1974 and in Ocean City since 2004.

I want to see the end of private prisons in Maryland and new county contracts for ICE detention. There should never be a financial incentive to arrest and detain someone. The prison system should be run by the government.

I also urge you to phase out existing ICE detention statewide, including the ICE Detention Center in Snow Hill here in Worcester County. A total overhaul of our immigration system is needed with a path to citizenship. Immigrants are important to our communities and our economy.

I urge a favorable report on HB16.

Sincerely, Joan Roache