

HB 16
House Judiciary Committee
Opposed

March 3, 2021

My name is Amy Waychoff, and I have been a resident of Montgomery County for over 33 years. I am writing in opposition to HB 16, the “Dignity Not Detention Act.” Private immigration detention facilities generally meet higher standards than local jails or prisons. If illegal aliens cannot be detained in private facilities in Maryland, they will just be held in other states, further from their lawyers and any family. Private detention facilities provide both jobs and a federal income stream to local communities that want them. Adopting a “one-size-fits-all” policy statewide would take that away from those communities. The number one priority of government is to keep its citizens safe. That includes keeping them safe from criminal illegal aliens. So it does not make sense to tie the hands of law enforcement agencies when it is their job to keep criminals off the streets. I therefore respectfully request that you vote against HB 16.

Sincerely,

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