

To: Chairman Clippinger and Members of the House Judiciary Committee

Fr: Sandy Tuttle

Re: Please oppose HB 16 – Dignity not detention Act - testimony submitted for the record

Date: March 3, 2021

I am writing to you to respectfully request that you oppose HB 16, the Dignity not Detention Act, which would take away options for law enforcement by prohibiting the use of private immigration detention facilities.

As a sanctuary jurisdiction, Montgomery County has seen a surge in crime. While it can be generally difficult to obtain this kind of crime data, it was not difficult to obtain information regarding the eight illegal aliens which were charged with committing crimes in Montgomery County during one month less than two years ago.

A 12 year old girl and her brother were sexually abused over a 6 month period; one illegal criminal alien was charged with the rape and attempted murder of a Silver Spring woman in our county. There are more too. Where is the concern for the dignity and well-being of these people, whose lives have been horribly impacted – something that could have been likely averted?

We need our Montgomery County Delegation members and the Members of this Committee to stand up for the safety of the residents of our county and this state.

Please oppose HB 16.