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January 25, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Maryland Trust Act (SB88/HB304). This is a vital quality-of-life measure that would enhance the safety of Maryland families by improving community relationships with law enforcement as well as various other state entities. The Maryland Trust Act addresses this important goal by providing more needed latitude for vulnerable immigrants within the Free State when it comes to reporting crimes, accessing health and social services for their families, and enrolling children in school.

The key provisions of the Maryland Trust Act in this regard include halting the counterproductive police partnership with ICE; safeguarding immigrants against ICE in such essential public venues as schools, courthouses, and hospitals; better guaranteeing that members of our state's communities can engage meaningfully with the police without fear of harassment; and stopping law enforcement agencies from involvement in such disruptive and potentially prejudicial practices as the detention of immigrants on behalf of ICE.

For these reasons and others, I strongly urge each of you to please give the Maryland Trust Act your fairest and fullest consideration.

Sincerely,

Robert Cullen

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