

## Testimony Against SB0977

Honorable Senators

Please enter an unfavorable report against SB0977.

I am against:

- Altering certain provisions of law to require a law enforcement agency or a unit of State or local government to deny access to certain databases, facilities, or buildings by certain individuals seeking access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law, under certain circumstances;
- requiring the Attorney General to enforce certain provisions of the Act; and
- providing that a State employee that violates certain provisions of the Act is subject to certain discipline.

Based on the law cited by the bill and the proposed amendments, the State would prohibit sharing data or allowing entry to a state facility to federal law enforcement officers if those officers state they are seeking, OR APPEARS TO BE SEEKING, access for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law and do not have a warrant. By making the distinction, “for the purpose of enforcing federal immigration law”, one can infer that the state would allow access for these federal officers if they were seeking access to enforce any other federal law, but did not have a warrant.

Making it more difficult to enforce federal immigration law, but not the enforcement of other federal laws is outrageous! It is this level of non-cooperation with federal law enforcement that led to Maryland and other states allowing the release of violent, illegal immigrants like the person who raped and murdered Rachel Morin. Rather than notify federal law enforcement that we have an illegal immigrant in jail for committing a crime while in the county illegally, so that the illegal person can be arrested and deported upon release from state custody, those that support this bill would rather make it more difficult for law enforcement to locate them. Until finally located by immigration enforcement officers, this would make it more dangerous for the citizens of the state who may be injured by these released illegals. Also it would make it more dangerous for the federal officers when they try to arrest them in an uncontrolled environment, rather than apprehend them at a secure location such as a state or county prison.

This bill is another example where the Democrat party places more importance on assisting those who break the law, whether citizens or illegals, than on the safety of the law-abiding citizens of Maryland.

Please enter an unfavorable report against SB0977.

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