



Odette Ramos

Baltimore City Councilwoman

District 14

(410) 396 - 4814

odette.ramos@baltimorecity.gov

100 N. Holliday Street, Room 506

Baltimore MD 21202

**SB 828 – Immigration Enforcement- Sensitive Locations – Guidelines and Policies
(Protecting Sensitive Locations Act)**

February 28, 2025

FAVORABLE

Honorable Chair Smith and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am writing to urge your support of **SB 828 Immigration Enforcement- Sensitive Locations – Guidelines and Policies**, also known as the **Protecting Sensitive Locations Act**.

The objective of this bill is to require state agencies that operate at sensitive locations to implement policies that protect individuals by limiting the presence of immigration enforcement. Some of these sensitive locations include schools, place of worship, medical facilities, and all sites that provide social services.

According to the U.S Census Bureau and American Community Survey, immigrants make up roughly 16.7 percent of Maryland’s population. With ongoing ICE raids occurring all over the country, fear and anxiety are present in our communities. These raids are a threat to our immigrant community, especially to those who are undocumented. The ICE raids have caused members of our community to lose days of work, keep their children from attending classes, and stay in their homes due to the fear of potentially encountering immigrant enforcement.

The lack of protection in sensitive locations will result in drastic consequences, such as damaging our local economies, isolating our community members, and preventing individuals from seeking essential services. We cannot allow immigration enforcement to intimidate or unlawfully detain citizens in places that are meant to be secure. Immigrants are vital to the fabric of our community, and we must stand alongside them during this time.

The Baltimore City Council understands the importance of protecting our immigrant community. On February 24th, 2025, we unanimously approved a resolution urging the Maryland General Assembly to pass the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act and the Maryland Data Privacy Act, underscoring the substantial support for protecting sensitive locations. We must remain steadfast in our commitment to protecting the rights of every member of our communities and ensuring the safety of immigrants across the state of Maryland.

I implore you all to pass a favorable report for SB 828.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. I can be reached by phone at 410-396-4814 or by email at odette.ramos@baltimorecity.gov.

Respectfully Submitted:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Odette", is positioned above the typed name.

Odette Ramos
Baltimore City Councilwoman. District 14