



Member Agencies:

211 Maryland
Baltimore Jewish Council
Behavioral Health System Baltimore
CASH Campaign of Maryland
Energy Advocates
Episcopal Diocese of Maryland
Family League of Baltimore
Fuel Fund of Maryland
Job Opportunities Task Force
Laurel Advocacy & Referral Services, Inc.
League of Women Voters of Maryland
Loyola University Maryland
Maryland Center on Economic Policy
Maryland Community Action Partnership
Maryland Family Network
Maryland Food Bank
Maryland Hunger Solutions
Paul's Place
St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore
Welfare Advocates

Marylanders Against Poverty

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TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 828

Immigrant Enforcement – Sensitive Locations – Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act)

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee
March 4, 2025

Marylanders Against Poverty (MAP) supports SB 828, which would direct the Attorney General to issue guidance about limiting immigration enforcement in “sensitive locations” in compliance with federal and state laws.

Like all Marylanders, immigrant families and those who have varying levels of citizenship status have the same needs, desires, and dreams. On a basic level – and as represented in SB 828, this includes access to food, education, child care, transportation, healthcare, shelters, emergency assistance, and access to trusted community places such as community-based organizations and houses of worship. The inability of *any* Marylander to have these needs met is a crisis, but with the added stress and fear of increased immigration enforcement, immigrant families are particularly at risk.

Many potential or perceived barriers to meeting basic household and family needs goes against MAP’s belief that all people have basic human rights, including access to food, affordable and stable housing, adequate and comprehensive health care, and education and vocational opportunities. The safety of our immigrant neighbors is of utmost importance, and even more so for those who are low-income, ineligible for public benefits, and language barriered.

The state’s ability to provide tangible and implementable guidance to our immigrant neighbors can only benefit the safety and prosperity of every Marylander.

MAP appreciates your consideration and respectfully requests that the committee a favorable report for SB 828.

Marylanders Against Poverty (MAP) is a coalition of service providers, faith communities, and advocacy organizations advancing statewide public policies and programs necessary to alleviate the burdens faced by Marylanders living in or near poverty, and to address the underlying systemic causes of poverty.