

Written Testimony for **HB 653**: Correctional Services - Transfers to Federal Authorities - Undocumented Immigrants (Protecting Marylanders From Violent Crime Act of 2025) - Please **VOTE YES** on this bill.

Dear Judiciary Committee:

This bill reads “ON REQUEST OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, A STATE OR LOCAL CORRECTIONAL FACILITY WITH CUSTODY OF AN UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANT WHO IS SERVING A SENTENCE IN THE FACILITY FOR CONVICTION OF A CRIME SHALL TRANSFER THE INDIVIDUAL TO THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY IF THE INDIVIDUAL: (1) HAS ENGAGED IN OR IS SUSPECTED OF TERRORISM OR ESPIONAGE, OR OTHERWISE POSES A DANGER TO NATIONAL SECURITY; (2) HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF AN OFFENSE OF WHICH AN ELEMENT IS ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN A CRIMINAL STREET GANG, AS DEFINED IN 18 U.S.C. § 6 521; (3) IS AT LEAST 16 YEARS OLD AND INTENTIONALLY PARTICIPATED IN A CRIMINAL STREET GANG, AS DEFINED IN U.S.C. § 521, TO FURTHER ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES; (4) HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF AN AGGRAVATED FELONY, AS DEFINED IN 8 U.S.C. § 1101; OR (5) HAS BEEN CONVICTED OF A SEXUAL OFFENSE FOR WHICH REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED UNDER TITLE 11, SUBTITLE 7 OF THE CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ARTICLE...”

This is a BIPARTISAN common sense bill that will keep our country and our citizens safe. It only stipulates transfer of an undocumented illegal immigrant to Homeland Security UPON REQUEST of Homeland Security and only IF the individual is SERVING A SENTENCE for a CONVICTION of a crime that relates to TERRORISM OR ESPIONAGE, or “otherwise poses a danger to national security”, GANG PARTICIPATION AND ACTIVITY, FURTHERING ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES, AGGRAVATED FELONIES or SEXUAL OFFENSE. This makes perfect sense, and I am extremely happy to see a bipartisan bill that addresses violent illegal immigrant criminal offenders! This bill shows that this is an important issue to both sides of the political aisle, to both Democrats and Republicans alike. It is not as common to see bipartisan bills, and this year I have seen more than I can remember in past years. So I applaud all the sponsors of this bill for coming together in order to pass common sense legislation that will keep Maryland and its citizens safer!

Please **VOTE YES** on this bill to show Marylanders that you agree with the sponsors of this bill that Maryland can be and should be tough on violent crime.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals