

Hearing Scheduled February 27, 2025

**Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 1006**

HB 1006 - Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines  
and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act)

House Judiciary Committee

To the Honorable Chair Clippinger, Vice Chair Bartlett, and Members of the Judiciary Committee

From Deborah Abramsky, CNM, MPH; Mount Rainier, MD

**My name is Deborah Abramsky, and I am a Certified Nurse Midwife living in District 47A. I strongly support passage of HB 1006.**

For over a decade, I have worked for a Federally Qualified Health Center that provides maternal child health services to immigrant families in Prince George's and Montgomery Counties. In the past, I have also worked and lived in El Salvador, developing and running a midwifery training project in a rural area that had previously been a war zone. As a result, I have a deep awareness of the traumatic impact that war, violence and poverty has had on generations of Salvadorans, and the importance of immigrants feeling safe while attending health care and other institutions - such as schools, places of worship, and the courts- that should be supporting and protecting their well being.

Most importantly for maternal and infant health, if immigrant women lack trust in health care institutions, they will delay or avoid prenatal care, which is essential to preventing prenatal complications that can be life threatening for both women and newborns. If they are afraid of an ICE raid, they may also delay or avoid getting timely urgent hospital care when experiencing signs of obstetrical complications. These types of delays would in many cases, lead to disastrous consequences for the individuals impacted, and would also result in an increase of both maternal and infant morbidity and mortality rates.

For these reasons, I urge you to support HB 1006.