
Planned Parenthood of Maryland

Committee: **Judiciary Committee**

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

Hearing: **February 27, 2025**

Position: **Favorable**

Planned Parenthood of Maryland (PPM) strongly supports *House Bill 1006 - Immigration Enforcement - Sensitive Locations - Guidelines and Policies (Protecting Sensitive Locations Act)* as it is in the best interest of our patients and clinicians as well as our core value: “Care. No matter what.”

This legislation requires the Attorney General to establish guidelines for public schools, hospitals, places of worship, courthouses and other sensitive locations to limit immigration enforcement on the premises, in a manner allowed by state and federal law. As a health care provider, and often a provider to Maryland’s most vulnerable communities, PPM is committed to creating a health care environment that is inclusive and encourages all people to proactively care for their health—to include STI testing and treatment, family planning, cancer screening and more. At Planned Parenthood of Maryland, we do not believe any individual should be afraid of visiting a health care provider because of their or their family’s real or perceived immigration status. This fear and uncertainty may cause delays in seeking necessary health care which may lead to poor health outcomes for individuals and communities.

Further, as health care providers, PPM staff take their duty of care very seriously. Our staff is currently seriously concerned about the safety of all our patients, but particularly the most disenfranchised. Guidelines that limit immigration officials’ access to sensitive spaces will give our frontline healthcare workers the confidence to do their work free from the threat of intimidation and fear of federal law enforcement intervening while they are caring for a patient. With this legislation, we can ensure that healthcare settings are places of compassion and healing rather than places that put people at risk.

Thank you for your consideration; we respectfully request a favorable vote from the Judiciary Committee. Please contact Erin Bradley, Vice President of Public Affairs, at erin.bradley@ppm.care or (443) 604-3544 for additional information.