

Testimony Concerning: HB1006 Protecting Sensitive Locations Act

Judiciary Committee Hearing: February 27, 2025

Position: SUPPORT

Honorable Judiciary Committee Members

I am writing in support of the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act. I write today as an individual Maryland citizen for the past thirty years. I have collaborated with immigrant advocacy groups in the recent past, but today I appeal to you as an individual who has experienced the best of what immigrants have to offer. As a teacher, I have seen that immigrant parents, those here for a long while or those just new to our country, were some of the best parents I have ever known. Having worked as an educator for over 30 years in this country and several other countries as well, that is saying a whole lot.

I believe it is imperative that we do not diminish our moral standing by invading sensitive areas in order to detain and deport individuals. This, of course, is already not the case when there is an imminent threat of danger. We needn't be concerned because that issue has already been covered. However, invading a child's school, playground, or to interrupt a church service is wholly uncalled for. To sink to such a level as this, I fear, would put us in terrible moral standing not only in this country, but around the world. Our courage to pass this Bill could also encourage other States to do so.

As a teacher, I know what terrible psychological trauma such a thing can cause. Not only immigrant children, but all children would be horrified to witness this. Not only immigrants and their families, but friends and neighbors would also be horrified. Although we have had a broken immigration system for some time, there is not real need to cause this extra amount of pain to innocent victims.

Please vote to pass this out of committee.

I fully support the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act HB1006.

Thank you.

Sincerely

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