



Working to end sexual violence in Maryland

P.O. Box 8782
Silver Spring, MD 20907
Phone: 301-565-2277
www.mcasa.org

For more information contact:
Lisae C. Jordan, Esquire
443-995-5544

Testimony Supporting House Bill 1006
Lisae C. Jordan, Executive Director & Counsel
February 27, 2025

The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MCASA) is a non-profit membership organization that includes the State's seventeen rape crisis centers, law enforcement, mental health and health care providers, attorneys, educators, survivors of sexual violence and other concerned individuals. MCASA includes the Sexual Assault Legal Institute which provides direct legal services for survivors across the State of Maryland. We urge the Judiciary Committee to report favorably on House Bill 1006.

House Bill 1006 – Sensitive Locations

This bill would require the Attorney General to develop guidance limiting immigration enforcement in sensitive locations, including victim services centers, child advocacy centers, and domestic violence shelters.

Previously, immigrants were protected from enforcement actions “near” sensitive locations. The prior federal policy ensured that individuals—regardless of their immigration status—could access victim services, education, healthcare, and religious services without fear. Eliminating protection for sensitive areas endangers the people who are immigrants without legal status, and also jeopardizes the well-being of entire communities, having a ripple effect well beyond the individuals most vulnerable. If anyone – immigrant or not – is fearful of coming forward to report sexual violence or seek help, this increases the chance that sex offenders will not be identified and will remain threats in our communities.

**The Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault urges the
Judiciary Committee to
report favorably on House Bill 1006**