

Testimony on House Bill – Favorable

HB 0639 – Transportation – Aviation – Passenger Health and Safety (Aviation Health and Safety Act)

Environment and Transportation Committee

February 17, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Gita Lefstein, and I am a resident of Baltimore County, Maryland. I am writing in support of HB0639, Transportation – Aviation – Passenger Health and Safety (Aviation Health and Safety Act). Immigrants in our communities are being terrorized, picked up when they try to follow the steps the government has provided and go to immigration related appointments, picked up in the streets, picked up in their workplaces, picked up everywhere. Immigrants who are being detained are being sent by plane to detention centers, often shackled. They are often being sent under unsafe conditions. Families are being torn apart. ICE is out of control. We need to do everything we can to stop this immoral and illegal treatment of people who are just trying to live their lives. It is up to us to do what we can to curb them. At least we can make sure that people going through our airports are treated humanely and safely. This bill would provide some safeguards for safety, for health issues, and for minors.

I respectfully urge you to issue a favorable report on HB0639.

Thank you.