



Montgomery County

Office of Intergovernmental Relations

ROCKVILLE: 240-777-6550

ANNAPOLIS: 240-777-8270

HB 639

DATE: February 19, 2026

SPONSOR: Delegate Charkoudian

ASSIGNED TO: Environment and Transportation

CONTACT PERSON: Sara Morningstar (Sara.Morningstar@montgomerycountymd.gov)

POSITION: Support

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

House Bill 639 establishes requirements and prohibitions related to the treatment of detained individuals being transported on aircraft using airports and airparks in Maryland, including Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport that is owned and operated by the Maryland Aviation Administration, and airports operated by local governments. The bill also addresses services of fixed base operators and aviation service companies operating at government-owned airports and airparks.

Montgomery County is aligned with the sponsor's objections to the harsh treatment of immigrants being involuntarily detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) personnel. Accordingly, the County supports the intent of House Bill 639 as a measurable step that Maryland could take toward pressing for the humane treatment by ICE of undocumented individuals being deported on aircraft from this country.

By denying the fair and orderly treatment of immigrant detainees involuntarily restrained on aircraft operating at Maryland airports, in effect, this allows our public infrastructure to be used for federal immigration enforcement. House Bill 639 is calling this out by shining a light on harsh ICE procedures that contradict Maryland's deeply rooted values of humane and equitable treatment of all individuals. Montgomery County urges the Committee to consider the various concerns raised by stakeholders but still send a message by advancing this legislation in some form.