

**Testimony on Senate Bill – FAVORABLE**  
**SB505 Transportation - Aviation - Passenger Health and Safety (Aviation Health and Safety Act)**

**Finance Committee**

**February 18, 2026**

Dear Honorable Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hays, and Members of the Committee

My name is Dr. Marcia Coe and I am a resident of Leonardtown, MD in St. Mary's County. During 2025 we saw a huge increase in flights of detained persons, as well as alarming reports about the conditions on board. Flight attendants wrote open letters where planes were refueled while detainees were still on board, despite the danger. Numerous people reported it would have been impossible to evacuate a plane quickly during these flights and there appears to be very little oversight in general.

This is why we need the Aviation Health and Safety Act – where everyone who is transported must have medical forms indicating allergies or medical conditions, as well as what medications each are taking. Minors must be documented, with information about their guardians if they are unaccompanied. These are basic requirements when overseeing the transportation for a large group of people. The fixed based operator or aviation service company should be responsible for the well-being of all detainees on board and prove they take this responsibility seriously.

I urge the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee to issue **a favorable report on SB505**

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