

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB0505 - Transportation - Aviation - Passenger Health and Safety  
(Aviation Health and Safety Act)**

**Chair Pamela Beidle and Members of the Finance Committee**

February 16, 2026

Chair Beidle and members of the Senate Finance Committee: My name is Judy Karasik. I have lived in Silver Spring, Maryland from 2001 to the present and previously resided in Chevy Chase from 1958 to 1971. I am among a group of neighbors who last year formed North Woodside Civil Resistance out of concern for the threat to our democracy posed by the actions of the Trump administration.

**I write in support of SB0505, the Aviation Health & Safety Act.**

I am deeply concerned about many aspects of the Trump administration's immigration policies. I am gratified that this body is considering several proposals that would help protect our neighbors in Maryland. SB0505 is an important piece of this overall legislative fabric.

SB0505 protects the health and safety of detainees on ICE flights originating from or passing through Thurgood Marshall International airport (BWI) by limiting the use of restraints and requiring the gathering and collecting of vital information. Detainee flights increased dramatically in 2025 and are likely to continue rising.

The legislation usefully includes requirements that:

**Flight crews distribute and collect medical forms from all passengers on flights with detainees** aboard, including current medical conditions, allergies and medications. Flight crews would keep the forms on board and provide them to emergency responders and/or hospitals in any medical emergency.

**Flight crews keep documentation of any minors on board and their guardianship information** if their parents are not with them, required by Maryland law for care of the minor in a medical emergency.

**Flight crews gather and maintain attorney contact information for all passengers traveling in restraints** so that their attorney can be contacted if the passenger requires medical care, as well as **information about any pending legal proceedings.**

**Flight crews** keep copies of these forms in the airplane and, **in the case of an emergency, share the information with emergency responders or hospitals in the state.**

**Flight providers check to ensure that the forms have been completed and are stowed safely** on the aircraft.

**Flight providers provide copies of the forms to the Administration monthly.**

Refueling does not occur if passengers are under any kind of restraint.

Thank you for your consideration.