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Committee: Government, Labor, and Elections

Testimony on: SB984 - Correctional Services - Private Detention Facilities - Zoning Requirement

Organization: Individual

Person Submitting: Lore Lyon Rosenthal

Position: Favorable

Hearing Date: April 2, 2026

Dear Chairwoman Wells and members of the committee,

I am writing in favor of **SB984 - Correctional Services - Private Detention Facilities - Zoning Requirement**

This bill is pretty straightforward. We do not want private companies running detention facilities.

Private facilities often aim for lower costs but face criticism for lower staff training, higher rates of violence, and less transparency compared to public facilities. We do not Maryland to become a private prison state.

Right now DHS and ICE are doing a horrible job of running detention facilities but at least we can monitor them under the law.

For all these reasons, I recommend a favorable report on SB984.

Thanks,

Lore Lyon Rosenthal