

Testimony on Senate Bill 791 – Favorable
SB 791 – Correctional Services and Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement –
Prohibitions (Community Trust Act)

Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 23, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jean Cavanaugh, and I live in Frederick MD. I am writing in support of **SB 791 – Correctional Services and Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement – Prohibitions (Community Trust Act)**.

I agree with Governor Moore that Maryland law enforcement should not be complicit with or enable a federal force that, under this Administration, is violating the constitutional and human rights of thousands of nonviolent immigrants, many of whom have the legal right to be here. Local law enforcement should not be “deputized” by an agency like those in DHS that do not practice the standards of constitutional policing we have here in Maryland.

The Trump Administration has engaged in manufactured “illegality” for immigrants, changing criteria for various levels of status seemingly on a whim. The true purpose of DHS agency tactics is to terrorize into submission people on the streets of our cities, in our agricultural and food sectors, and other places where workers congregate.

Whether formal or informal, local law enforcement collaboration with DHS agencies erode trust in police and make our communities less safe.

Maryland should not help DHS disappear, detain, and deport our neighbors. I support the United States as a welcoming country for immigrants who come here to contribute, work hard, and make a better life for their families.

Please vote favorably for SB 791.

Thank you,

Jean Cavanaugh, Frederick, MD