

## Testimony on SB0791 – FAVORABLE

### SB0791 – Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions (Community Trust Act)

#### Judicial Proceedings Committee – February 25, 2026

Judicial Proceedings Committee and Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit **FAVORABLE testimony in support of SB0791 and cross-filed House legislation, HB1575.**

I support SB0791/HB1575 because collaboration with ICE – especially by holding people past their release dates and notifying ICE about individuals in custody with no judicial warrant – is making our communities less safe and having a chilling effect on public education.

My perspective is shaped by my experience as a former 5-term PTO president in Prince George’s County, where I represented a school with a large immigrant community from more than 30 countries. Prince George’s County schools overall include students and families from more than 150 countries and speaking more than 100 different languages. These families are hard-working, care deeply about their children’s education, and are valued members of our community. In all my years as a PTO president, I never once wondered about a family’s status. The moment they walked through our school doors, they belonged. Period.

The immigration actions we take – even outside the traditional boundaries of our schools – are having a clear impact on students and families. In my community alone, parents have been detained while walking their children to and from school. Students have witnessed at least one immigration-related incident that included a gun being drawn by law enforcement and used to threaten bystanders. Basic community outreach activities such as food and clothing drives have been negatively impacted. And all this is happening as we are working to improve attendance and academic outcomes at schools across Maryland. Put simply, **our children cannot learn when families live in fear** – and public policy must always put Maryland students first.

SB0791 and HB1575 would protect due process by requiring a judicial warrant before anyone is held for ICE and stops local officers from proactively contacting ICE about people in their custody. This legislation would help protect families and the rule of law.

I thank all the legislative sponsors and co-sponsors for their leadership on this issue, and I respectfully urge a FAVORABLE report on SB07901 and HB1575.

Timothy Meyer

*Former 5-term PTO president in Prince George’s County  
Individual Advocate with the Blueprint Coalition*