

Testimony on Senate Bill 791 – Favorable

SB791 – 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 Robin Zwier and I am a resident of Parkville, Maryland. I am writing in support of SB791 – the Community Trust Act.

I care about this issue as a community member and educator. At this point, no one can feel confident that they are safe from ICE's lawless actions, and our immigrant neighbors and other people of color feel especially threatened. Students should not have to add worrying that themselves or their loved ones could be detained or deported to the long list of concerns teenagers and young adults already have. We need to know that Maryland stands with our communities.

I support SB791 because local jails and law enforcement across Maryland are voluntarily collaborating with ICE - holding people past their release dates and notifying ICE about individuals in custody, all without a judicial warrant. This is unconstitutional, wastes taxpayer dollars, and makes our communities less safe by eroding trust between residents and law enforcement.

This bill simply requires a judicial warrant before anyone is held for ICE and stops local officers from proactively contacting ICE about people in their custody. It does not prevent the federal government from enforcing immigration laws; it just ensures that Maryland is not doing ICE's job for them.

If we want our state and local law enforcement officials to be able to their jobs to keep our communities safe, it is important that we know they are not collaborating with ICE and actively assisting in detaining and deporting our neighbors.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report on SB791.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Robin Zwier