

**Testimony on Senate Bill – Favorable**  
**SB0985** Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities - Minimum  
Mandatory Standards

**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**

**March 10, 2026**

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

I am writing to offer favorable testimony in support of **SB0985** Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities - Minimum Mandatory Standards.

I am a primary care physician who sees undocumented immigrants. My patients are being kidnapped, oppressed, scared, and deported by ICE. ICE is not making us safer in Maryland; they are arresting more and more people, harassing citizens as well.

ICE is well known for failing to provide healthcare to its detainees according to accepted standards. Among other things, this bill would allow a facility to be closed if it is “life threatening or life endangering.” We must not allow such detention facilities in Maryland without at least the ability to guarantee they do not mistreat the detainees.

When you are asked in future years what you did to protect all residents of Maryland, you can point to this bill as evidence.

I urge the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee to issue a **favorable report** on SB0985.

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