

**Testimony on Senate Bill 791 – Favorable
SB791 – Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement -
Prohibitions (Community Trust Act)**

Judicial Proceedings Committee

February 25, 2026

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

My name is Prabu Selvam, and I am a resident of Gaithersburg, Maryland. I am writing in support of SB791 – the Community Trust Act.

My support for this bill is to guarantee residents of Maryland their due-process rights and to keep families together. The federal government has pursued a cruel and illegal campaign, exploiting federal immigration authority to actively harm our residents.

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.

As an ER physician, there has been a significant impact on healthcare access by immigrant communities. Especially for individuals who may be experiencing drug addiction and other life-threatening conditions that may attract law enforcement attention, they are pushed further into the shadows, creating a life-threatening situation. We are also seeing an increase in children of immigrants suffering from acute mental health crises because of the fear their families are living under.

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.

Individuals who do not pose an imminent threat to the community should be protected from unlawful immigration enforcement so that we can keep our Maryland families together and maintain the trust that local law-enforcement depends on to keep our communities safe.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Prabu Selvam
Gaithersburg, MD