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Concerning **HB1018**, Correctional Services - Correctional Facilities and Immigration Detention Facilities - Minimum Mandatory Standards — **Favorable**

**To the Chair, Vice Chair, and members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee:**

I urge you to give HB1018, Minimum Mandatory Standards for Correctional Facilities and Immigration Detention, a favorable report, without amendments, and to bring it to a floor vote and ensure its passage through the House.

Over the last year, we've seen a terror campaign against noncitizens (and people of color, and activists) in the name of immigration enforcement. We've even seen it turn into an effort to massively expand their detention system after they accepted the bottleneck on their deportation operations. Their facilities, such as the Fallon Federal Building in Baltimore City, have been overcrowded and without sanitation, adequate access to water, proper sleeping arrangements, and medical services. These conditions have been killing people at an alarming rate, worsened by frequent violence, including sexual violence, waged by ICE guards. I know the State of Maryland does not accept this state of affairs, as demonstrated by the lawsuit against DHS for its violation of laws and policies in its attempt to build a concentration camp in Williamsport, as well as the lawsuit against their inhumane conditions maintained in Fallon.

I believe in the State of Maryland's concern for these violations of human rights carried out on Maryland soil, but I know there are concerns about federal response. Surely, the federal government will lash out when it has the capacity to do so, as it has already been doing, to us and to other states. But this is a fight that must be fought. The People of Maryland will not accept this happening to our neighbors, polluting our communities with sewage and terror.

I urge you to give HB1018 a favorable report and push it through the Senate as soon as possible.

Solidarity,

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