

SB 984 Correctional Services—Private Immigration Detention Facilities—Zoning Requirements

Position Favorable

March 10, 2026

To: Chairperson Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Members of the
Judicial Proceedings Committee

My name is Loreen Heinz; I am a resident of District 12A and am representing myself.

Warehouses or other structures designed to house material goods should not be allowed to be retrofitted to house human beings, even on a temporary basis, without going through a zoning process.

It is imperative that Maryland set *strict* zoning standards for private ownership of such structures for use as detention centers of persons identified (wrongly or rightly) by the federal government, thereby allowing the owners to profit from “warehousing” people in the inhumane conditions we’ve seen in states such as Florida and Texas.

Please vote in Favor of SB 984.