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Committee: House Judiciary Committee
Testimony on: HB 0719 - Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement -
Prohibition Against Sanctuary Policies
Organization: Individual
Person Submitting: Philippa Gasnier
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: March 4, 2026

Dear Chairwoman Bartlett and members of the committee,

I am writing in opposition to HB 0719 (Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement - Prohibition Against Sanctuary), which would prohibit sanctuary policies and repeal laws inconsistent with the ban.

Sanctuary policies are supported by Maryland voters for many reasons. When State and local law enforcement cooperates and collaborates with ICE, DHS and other federal immigration agents, who have been routinely violating constitutional rights and acting recklessly and violently, they are viewed as complicit. They are acting against Maryland values and destroying trust and confidence of Marylanders in law enforcement. Furthermore, if State and local law enforcement officers are working hand in glove with DHS, CPB, ICE and other federal immigration agents, immigrants will cease reporting crimes, being available as witnesses to crimes and utilizing needed services which help the community remain safe and healthy.

I ask that you oppose HB-0719 as this bill would increase crime and erode trust in our law enforcement.

Thank you,
Philippa Gasnier