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Committee: Judiciary
Testimony on HB0630- Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities - Original
Design and Construction
Organization: Individual
Person Submitting: Cynthia Pearson
Position: Favorable
Hearing Date: 10 March 2026

Dear Chairman Bartlett and members of the committee,

I am writing to express my support for House Bill 0630. As a resident of University Park in Prince Georges County, I support the Bill as a measure to prevent ICE, and/or other entities, from operating a warehouse leased or purchased in this State as an immigration detention facility unless it was originally designed and constructed for that purpose. We should not warehouse people in facilities designed for property--people are not property in this State.

The Bill is needed to ensure that any facility—federal or private—meets basic human habitation standards and to prevent Maryland from becoming a staging ground for makeshift prisons that are not in compliance with State's health and decency standards. Accordingly, I urge you to pass H.B. 630 to ensure Maryland maintains its standards of decency in its treatment of all persons.

Sincerely,

Cynthia A. Pearson