

Testimony on House Bill - Favorable

HB 309 - Judicial Facilities - Stops, Detentions, Arrests - Limitations

House Judiciary Committee

Dear Honorable Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis and Members of the Committee,

I, Cynthia Sokolow, am writing to offer favorable testimony in **support of HB 309, Judicial Facilities - Stops, Detentions and Arrests - Limitations.**

I am a fifth generation Marylander on my mother's side. My Austrian father was a Holocaust survivor, who fled the Nazis in 1938 for the U.S.

His parents, however, were not so lucky. After Dad passed, I learned through the Holocaust memorial institution Yad Vashem, that they perished in the death camp Treblinka.

My grandparents were likely violently removed from their home, Records show they were first taken to Theresienstadt, the "model concentration camp", propaganda the Nazis used. In reality, it was a transit facility where there was starvation, forced labor, disease and death.

My grandparents were transported to Treblinka three months later and murdered upon arrival. Their "crime"? Being Jewish.

Today our immigrant neighbors, many of whom contribute to our society, are here legally, or waiting for asylum, now fear deportation, losing their rights, and detainment under horrific conditions. They are experiencing what my grandparents did in Nazi-occupied territory.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB 309. Protect our immigrants!

Thank you,
Cynthia Ascher Sokolow, D9A
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