

**Testimony on HB0630: Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities - Original Design and Construction**

**Judiciary Committee**

**March 9, 2026**

**Position: Favorable**

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

My name is Betsy Krieger and I am a resident of the 41<sup>st</sup> district in Baltimore City and the President of Be the Change, a social justice organization. We strongly urge the committee to pass HB0630.

We are horrified, as I imagine you are, to see the atrocious conditions that immigrants are being subjected to. The treatment is inhumane and should be unacceptable.

I support HB0630 because current Maryland law creates loopholes that allow private companies to obtain approvals on detention centers without the proper zoning requirements.

Private sellers, like the one in Williamsport, MD, have an interest in selling their operations as quickly as possible. This law aims to prohibit individuals from operating sites as correctional facilities when the original purpose of the site was not intended to be a correctional facility.

Maryland has an obligation to implement laws that protect the health and safety of all human beings, especially those who are detained or incarcerated. For the reasons stated in this testimony, I respectfully urge a favorable report on HB0630.

Thank you,

Betsy Krieger  
411 Hawthorn Rd  
Baltimore, MD 21210  
Be the Change Bmore