



## MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

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TO: Delegate J. Sandy Bartlett, Chair  
Delegate Debra Davis, Vice Chair  
Judiciary Committee Members  
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus  
DATE: 2/25/2026  
RE: HB1575 - Correctional Services and Public Safety -  
Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions

### **The MLLC support HB1575 - Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions (Community Trust Act) - Appointment of Personal Representatives**

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HB1575.

Maryland is home to nearly 700,000 Latino residents, a significant portion of whom live in mixed-status households.<sup>1</sup> This means that even U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents are directly affected when fear of immigration enforcement disrupts daily life. That fear is not abstract. When immigrants believe that a routine traffic stop, a call to 911, or an encounter with a corrections officer could lead to detention or deportation, they avoid contact with law enforcement altogether. Victims of domestic violence stay silent.<sup>2</sup> Witnesses to crimes do not come forward. Communities become less safe for everyone.

HB 1575 directly addresses this crisis of trust. By prohibiting correctional and law enforcement personnel from conducting immigration inquiries, prolonging detentions based on civil immigration status, or notifying federal authorities absent a valid judicial warrant or court order, this bill establishes a clear, enforceable boundary between local public safety functions and federal immigration enforcement. Critically, it does not prevent officers from performing their core duties and so criminal investigations and routine booking procedures remain fully intact.

The bill's provision allowing individuals to seek actual damages, punitive damages, and injunctive relief is equally important. The inclusion of a private right of action, allowing individuals to seek actual damages, punitive damages, and injunctive relief, ensures that these prohibitions carry real consequences. Without enforcement mechanisms, statutory protections risk becoming aspirational rather than operational.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HB1575.

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<sup>1</sup> [U.S. Census: Maryland](#)

<sup>2</sup> [How ICE Is Making It Harder for Immigrants to Escape Domestic Violence](#)