

Testimony on House Bill 1575 – Favorable

HB1575 – Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions (Community Trust Act)

House Judiciary Committee

February 23, 2026

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

My name is Katherine Dangel, and I am a resident in Howard County, Maryland. I am writing in support of **HB1575 – the Community Trust Act**.

This bill is very important for all communities. I have family members who could be directly impacted by the unlawful detainments that we have seen of late. This bill also eliminates the possibility of racial or prejudicial biases that could impact Black and Brown communities, which are commonly detained by Ice.

I support HB1575 because local jails and law enforcement across Maryland are voluntarily collaborating with ICE - holding people past their release dates and notifying ICE about individuals in custody, all without a judicial warrant. This is unconstitutional, wastes taxpayer dollars, and makes our communities less safe by eroding trust between residents and law enforcement.

I want to eliminate the fear that many of my friends have expressed to me surrounding the possibility of losing people who are important to them. I want to eliminate my fear, that people I care about could be detained for simply being an immigrant, without any legal reason for it.

This bill simply requires a judicial warrant before anyone is held for ICE and stops local officers from proactively contacting ICE about people in their custody. It does not prevent the federal government from enforcing immigration laws; it just ensures that Maryland is not doing ICE's job for them.

Ensuring legal reasons for deportation will solve the issues that ICE deportations have presented: the issues of racial bias and unlawful deportations.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report on SB791/HB1575**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Katherine Dangel,