

# Testimony on House Bill – Favorable HB1575

Judiciary hearing 2/25/26

Dear members of the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Carolyn Matthews, and I am a resident of Anne Arundel County, Maryland. I am writing in support of **HB1575 Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions (Community Trust Act)**

Thank you to the committee members who are co-sponsoring this important legislation.

This is yet another bill before the committee and the legislature this year that is necessary only because we have to limit the damage done to our communities by the federal government in its overzealous and overreaching immigration actions. While I long for the day when it is no longer incumbent upon Maryland's governance to spend its limited days of session on such matters, I am proud to live in a state that strives to protect all of its residents.

I strongly support HB1575, especially in light of the response from some local law enforcement and government officials when the 287(g) ban was signed. It is important to shut down back door means of allowing local entities to continue to do the work of federal agencies beyond what is actually appropriate. Making explicit mention of needing a judicial warrant only to comply with federal directives is important. Spelling out in detail that inquiring about or acting upon a person's immigration status is not part of local corrections or law enforcement duties is important. Prohibiting employees from allowing anyone to access non-public spaces and records is important. Again, it is frustrating that such things must be stated with such specificity, but this bill does an admirable job of closing loopholes.

I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report** on HB 1575.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

