

Testimony on House Bill – Favorable
HB 309 Judicial Facilities—Stops, Detentions, and
Arrests—Limitations
House Judiciary Committee
February 2, 2026

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

I, Kellie Isbell, am writing to offer favorable testimony in support of **HB 309 (Judicial Facilities – Stops, Detentions, and Arrests – Limitations)**.

I have repeatedly heard friends and family insist that immigrants to the United States should “play by the rules” and “do it the right way.” But under the Trump Administration’s policies, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents have begun arresting immigrants at courthouses. This misguided policy prevents immigrants who **are** playing by the rules and doing things the right way from attending required immigration proceedings or check-ins.

Now, law-abiding immigrants are being forced to skip these proceedings to avoid being detained by our government. HB 309 addresses this issue in Maryland and prohibits ICE agents from targeting these immigrants within one mile of a judicial facility.

Other states have passed similar legislation, and I encourage you to do the same here. HB 309 will help protect the rights of our residents and uphold the integrity of the judicial system.

I urge you to vote in favor of this bill.

Sincerely,

Kellie Isbell
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