

Testimony on House Bill 0630—**FAVORABLE**

Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities - Original Design and
Construction
For Hearing on March 11, 2026

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

My name is Marcia Greenberg, and I am a resident of St. Mary's County. I am writing in support of HB0630 regarding Immigration Detention Facilities. This bill prohibits the operation of an immigration detention center at any building that was not designed and constructed for that purpose. ICE is already housing detainees in overcrowded, unsanitary, and potentially dangerous conditions. This inhumane practice must stop.

I support HB0630 because current Maryland law creates loopholes that allow private companies to obtain approvals on detention centers without the proper zoning requirements. Buildings utilized to house goods are being bought to detain human beings with no regard for whether they have the correct infrastructure to safely and humanely do so. Given the [human rights abuses we are seeing at the Fallon Center](#) in Baltimore, where a hundred or more immigrants are crammed into tight spaces with no access to clean water or facilities, there is a clear need for to develop laws that will enforce basic health and safety standards on building operations.

Private sellers, like the one in Williamsport, MD, have an interest in selling their operations as quickly as possible. For health and safety reasons, facilities originally built to be utilized to house goods or services should not be able to be repurposed into correctional facilities. 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.

I am a Jewish American and I know about concentration camps in Germany and Poland. I am a lawyer, and I know about the unconstitutional internment of Japanese Americans during WWII. Now, in the United States in the 21st century, and we must do *absolutely everything* we can to prevent the establishment of camps and prisons to detain innocent people.

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.

Respectfully submitted,
Marcia Greenberg
St Mary's County 20653