

Written Testimony for HB 630 *Correctional Services - Immigration Detention Facilities - Original Design and Construction* (FAV)

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I am writing to express my support for HB 630. Across the country, people are being held in facilities that are not designed for their current capacity or purpose. As we have seen from detainee accounts, leaked footage, and credible reports by watchdog organizations, this has led to inhumane conditions, including severe overcrowding and restricted access to basic hygiene and nutrition. To submit any person to these conditions is unconscionable for a country that purports to uphold model standards for human dignity. That many of the people currently being held in these facilities have been detained in flagrant violations of their rights—that many of them are children—only compounds this scandal. This bill would mitigate the use of unsuitable facilities for detainment and promote public oversight into a process that significantly impacts communities. It would represent a practical step—one of many that must be taken—toward ameliorating the human rights crisis we are currently witnessing.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.