

FROM: Beverly Abeles
19904 Blue Heron Lane
Hagerstown, MD 21742

DATE: February 16, 2026

TO: Chair: House Judiciary Committee
Maryland House of Delegates

RE: Testimony in Support of House Bill [HB 630] – Correctional Services
Immigration Detention Facilities – Original Design and Construction

Dear Chair and members of the Maryland House Judiciary Committee,

I am writing to you as a resident of Washington County to urge you to pass HB 630 and prevent our Free State from becoming the next location to house a concentration camp, which is exactly what these DHS “housing” facilities are.

The warehouse in question in Washington County was purchased without the knowledge of the citizens of the county, and was not originally built to house human beings. I have heard firsthand from my friend Melissa, who was ripped from her husband and four children when she reported to her immigration hearing, the level of inhumanity in these human warehouses. People shackled together, a handful of toilets for 100s of women, lights on 24 hours a day. We want no part of this Nazi bullshit in our county (I say this as the daughter of a WWII veteran, who fought against this very thing, now happening within miles of his grave).

Pass HB 630. You must decide what Maryland will tolerate. Will we allow people to be stored as freight, or will we insist on basic human standards? History will record what we permitted and what we refused.

Sincerely,
Beverly Abeles