

February 25, 2026

Anna T. Levy
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TESTIMONY ON HB#1575 - POSITION: FAVORABLE

**Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions
(Community Trust Act)**

TO: Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Anna T. Levy

My name is Anna T. Levy. I am a resident of District 16. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#1575, Correctional Services and Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement - Prohibitions (Community Trust Act).

I am proud to be a lifelong resident of Maryland and celebrate the diversity of cultures that make our community and state a wonderful place to live. My Jewish values and traditions include respect for every human being and support and caring for all members of our community. My grandparents came to the United States from Eastern Europe, fleeing oppression and poverty. As do the immigrants today, they wanted to raise my parents in a place of safety and opportunity. I believe that it is immoral to tear apart families and to generate fear amongst those who live, work, and visit in our communities.

Each one of us, no matter where we were born or our immigration status, are accorded the rights and protections of the US Constitution. Many of those being held in local jails have not been convicted of any crimes; innocent people should not be transferred to ICE. The Community Trust Act is a critical next step after the ban on 287(g) agreements in Maryland. Holding individuals beyond their scheduled release date is unconstitutional. The Act will ensure that a correctional facility must have a judicial warrant to hold a person in order to transfer them to ICE.

HB1575 will put into law the protections that we should all expect; to live and raise our children in safety and without fear. Each of us should be able to report crimes without the threat of deportation, protecting all of our community. Importantly, HB1575 will prevent our local law enforcement officers from spending their time facilitating immigration arrests by doing the work of ICE agents instead of the work for which they are hired. The legislation does not prevent the Federal government from enforcing immigration laws or hide any information from ICE.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#1575.