



TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB 1575 – CORRECTIONAL SERVICES AND PUBLIC SAFETY – IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT – PROHIBITIONS (COMMUNITY TRUST ACT)

POSITION: Support

BY: Linda Kohn, President

DATE: February 25, 2026

The League of Women Voters supports the [10th Amendment to the US Constitution](#) which affirms that states have primary policing powers within their borders. [Case law](#), moreover, asserts that the federal government cannot compel states to enforce immigration law as it is the responsibility of the federal rather than the state government to exact compliance with these laws. Maryland, therefore, has the right to specify which, if any, actions law enforcement agencies and their employees throughout the state may or may not take related to immigration enforcement. The League also supports the [4th Amendment to the US Constitution](#), which not only affords protection against searches and seizures for all persons on US soil unless authorized by a judicial warrant based on probable cause but also serves as [a guard against disclosure of personal information such as immigration status](#).

HB 1575 states that, with limited exceptions, employees and agents of state or local correctional facilities in Maryland in the course of their duties may neither inquire about or investigate an individual's citizenship, immigration status, or place of birth nor provide information to federal immigration authorities that is not publicly accessible. The bill further stipulates that in the course of their duties without valid judicial authorization employees and agents of state or local correctional facilities in Maryland may not detain or prolong the detention of an individual at the request of federal immigration authorities, notify federal immigration authorities that an individual is in custody or transfer an individual to federal immigration authorities.

Because these provisions align with positions held by the League of Women Voters, **the League of Women Voters of Maryland**, representing nearly 2,000 citizens throughout Maryland in its own right, **strongly urges you to issue a favorable report.**