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## Residential Support for CB16 and CB17

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From Adam Fried [REDACTED]

Date Wed 2/4/2026 12:01 PM

To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>

### **WARNING!!!**

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Hello,

My name is Adam Fried, and I am a resident of Oakland Mills in Columbia. I'm writing ahead of tonight's public hearing to voice my support for the two pieces of legislation being discussed, CB16 and CB17.

It has been sickening to watch as armed men in masks terrorize and murder vulnerable populations across the country with impunity. No one should have to cower in fear that they could be harassed or kidnapped or worse while just trying to live, not in Minneapolis or Portland or here in Howard County.

The Trump administration's fascist goon squad must be opposed at every opportunity, and "Abolish ICE" should not be seen as a radical position, but instead the bare minimum if this country has a hope of surviving another three years.

The two proposed pieces of legislation serve as a strong foundation in starting to counter the racist and disgusting actions of ICE, and DHS, and the entire Trump administration. With their passage and constant vigilance, Howard County can do its part to help stem the creeping spread of modern fascism and maintain our place as a community residents are proud to call home.

I will strongly support any further legislation that seeks to oppose ICE's cruel efforts, including the establishment of public legal defense funds, citizen outreach resources, county-wide banning of masks for law enforcement, and any other measures necessary to keep residents safe and informed.

Solidarity,  
Adam Fried

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## I Support Emergency Bills CB16 and CB17

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From Alex Lang [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 2/4/2026 2:17 PM  
To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Hello,

My name is Alexander Lang, and I am a lifelong resident of Howard County. My partner is a teacher in the Howard County Public School System. I do not support the actions of ICE and the DHS in their pursuit of immigration enforcement. Children in my partner's school have missed class out of fear that they will become targets of ICE officers. This reason alone should be cause for reevaluation of the goals and methods of ICE, but the indisputable fact that ICE and agencies like them are responsible for 35 deaths in custody, 8 out of custody, and 13 injuries (most of them shootings) this year alone is unacceptable. The least the legislative body of Howard County could do is remove their ability to easily gain access to our community. I must make clear that more should be done, but the passing of these bills is a necessity for the residents of our county.

I look forward to our children feeling safe in our schools and streets,  
- Alexander Lang

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**CB16 - 2026 & CB17-2026**

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From Alyse Carter [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 2/4/2026 2:03 PM  
To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Howard County Council members,

I am a Howard County resident writing in support of emergency legislation CB16-2026 & CB 17-2026.

The topic of immigration has become an emergent issue on a nationwide scale, and I am proud of our local administration taking lead on drafting legislation that would offer protections for our neighbors. When I originally moved to Howard County, I chose Columbia as home because I valued the culture and diversity. Growing up in Ellicott City, I was spoiled with the exposure to all the Asian American businesses on Rt 40. These are an immediate result of the value immigrants provide to their communities.

CB16 - 2026 will prevent privately owned businesses from using their space or selling it to serve as a detention facility. This should be widely supported by every council member as no facility aside from a government ran correctional institution should be detaining humans. Everyone has the right to participate in the judicial process, and private detention facilities discredit and prevent local law enforcement from carrying out state and lawful duties.

CB17 - 2026 provides a framework and proclamation of what our county stands for. I hope creating a guideline for county institutions will inspire other businesses and organizations to also communicate their stance on immigration and their commitment to keeping our communities safe.

I firmly believe we have a duty to protect our neighbors, and the results of our current administration are creating a humanitarian crisis; this issue surpasses political party. Thank you for promptly voting on this legislation and welcoming community feedback. I hope both pieces of legislation will pass this Thursday!

Sincerely,  
Alyse Carter

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**Alyse Carter**

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Support for CB16 and CB17**

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**From** Amanda Olson [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 12:57 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Good afternoon,

I firmly support any legislation that blocks ICE in our community. As a Howard County resident, I support both CB16 and CB17.

Sincerely,

Amanda Olson  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Amir Naviwala testimony in favor of CB17**

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**From** Amir Naviwala [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 2:06 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

 1 attachment (70 KB)  
cb17 ice county cooperation.pdf;

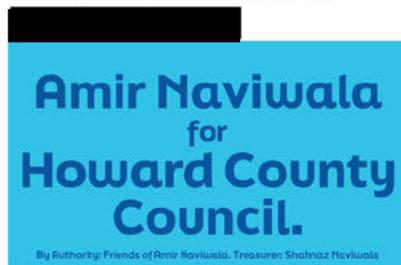
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Please see attached.

Thanks!

Amir Naviwala  
Candidate for 2026 (D-3)



# Testimony in Support of Council Bill 17–2026

Good evening Chair, Councilmembers, and County Executive.

My name is Amir Naviwala. I'm a candidate for Howard County Council District 3, and I'm here in strong support of Council Bill 17.

CB17 is not about defying federal law. It's about **clarity, boundaries, and responsible governance** at a time when immigration enforcement activity has intensified rapidly—nationally and here in Howard County.

The facts matter. Detentions are at record highs. Deaths in ICE custody have increased. And locally, arrests have risen sharply, with many involving people who have no criminal record. That creates real fear and uncertainty for families, workers, and communities.

CB17 responds in a careful and lawful way.

First, it requires the County Executive to publish **clear guidance** for county staff. That protects frontline employees from having to make legal decisions on the spot and reduces liability for the County.

Second, it sets firm rules for **county facilities and property**—making clear that non-public areas are not open to civil immigration enforcement without a valid judicial warrant, and that county-owned property cannot be used as staging areas unless legally required.

Third, it declares contracts that directly support civil immigration enforcement **void as against public policy**, ensuring county resources are not used beyond what the law requires.

Importantly, CB17 respects federal and state preemption and does not interfere with criminal law enforcement.

This bill strengthens public trust, protects public health, and provides consistency where confusion currently exists. Given the pace of recent enforcement activity, treating this as an emergency measure is appropriate.

For these reasons, I urge your support of Council Bill 17.

Thank you.

**Pass CB16 and CB 17**

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**From** Andrea Ortiz [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:46 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Good afternoon members of Howard County Council,

I am writing this email as a concerned Howard County Resident. ICE has shown time and time again that they are more than willing to racially profile, intimidate and kill human beings. This is a system that upholds white supremacy, which makes this country less safe as a result. I am tired of seeing human beings be killed (Keith Porter, Renee Good, Alex Pretti, and more) at the hands of ICE. How many more will die? I worry for my family and for the students that I serve as a school social worker. I worry for all people. I believe that the passage of CB 16 and CB 17 would curtail some of ICE's efforts to create chaos and danger in Howard County. I implore you to make the right decision, and vote YES for CB16 and CB 17.

Thank you for your time,

Andrea Ortiz

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## Strong Support for CB16-2026 & CB17-2026

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From Angela Alt [REDACTED]

Date Wed 2/4/2026 12:04 PM

To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov  
<CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Council Members and Chair Jones-

My name is Angela Alt. I am a citizen from District 2 in Columbia. I strongly support the passage of CB16-2026 and CB17-2026. Howard County is stronger because of, not in spite of, our immigrant neighbors, both those who have become citizens and those who are not yet citizens. Their protection is not a separate matter from all of our protection. ICE is a dangerous, fascist force and their "detention centers" are in reality a growing network of concentration camps. I **do not** want such facilities anywhere in our country, let alone in our county and **do not** want any member of our county government to collaborate with ICE enforcement. **Please remember the last line of Martin Niemöller's important poem, "*Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me.*" while you consider this emergency legislation. You are in a position to help stop this and the citizens of this county are watching.**

Sincerely-  
Angela Alt

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**Emergency Legislation - Council Bills 16 & 17 - 2026**

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**From** Anthony Tabb [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 2:42 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Greetings.

I wish to express my support for the emergency council bills 16 & 17. At the same time, both bills are woefully insufficient, and very late. Having had knowledge of the intent to convert a warehouse into a concentration camp as early as August of last year, such a thing should have been rejected far earlier. I'm disappointed, but not surprised at the emphasis on procedure rather than protecting the residents of the county. ICE, CBP, and DHS have been responsible for the murder of multiple people for most of their existence, through multiple administrations. There are documented cases of rape, sexual abuse, medical neglect, disappeared people, physical abuse, and unexplained deaths of detainees by ICE and the like. This information can be found in various corporate media outlets, from MSN to ABC, as well as organizations like the ACLU. There are also several cases of people impersonating ICE agents to abduct people, making the existence of such shady organizations even more dangerous for everyone.

This is not just a Trump issue, as images of Border Patrol agents on horseback, assaulting Haitian migrants occurred under the Biden administration. This is a human issue. Nobody deserves to be warehoused in a concentration camp for a minor civil violation. For a county that loves to tout that it was once voted "Best County," the willingness to work with repressive, reactionary organizations speaks to the hollowness of such an award. It is an embarrassment. These are dangerous agencies with well documented human right abuses, and these bills fail to address the threat these agencies pose to the people. While I support these bills as a start, more needs to be done. Thank you.

Anthony M. Tabb

**Re: CB16 and CB17**

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**From** Charmaine Ohlmacher [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:18 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Hello,

I am writing in support of bills CB16 and CB17 that are being voted on this evening. As a Howard County resident, I believe that we need to do everything in our power to provide a safe and welcoming community for ALL people who live and work here. I strongly oppose our county grounds being used for a detention center; I strongly oppose our county's resources being used to help ICE in any way. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best,

Charmaine

Please pass CB16-2026 and CB17-2026

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From Heidi M [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 2/4/2026 2:05 PM  
To Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>  
Cc Heidi M <heidi@rhmyers.com>

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Dear Council Members and Chair Rigby,

My name is Heidi Myers. I am a citizen from District 3 in Columbia. I strongly support the passage of CB16-2026 and CB17-2026. Howard County is stronger because of, not in spite of, our immigrant neighbors, both those who have become citizens and those who are not yet citizens. Their protection is not a separate matter from all of our protection. ICE is a dangerous, fascist force and their "detention centers" are in reality a growing network of concentration camps. I **do not** want such facilities anywhere in our country, let alone in our county and **do not** want any member of our county government to collaborate with ICE enforcement. **Please remember the last line of Martin Niemöller's important poem, "Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me." while you consider this emergency legislation. You are in a position to help stop this, and the citizens of this county are watching.**

Sincerely-  
Heidi Myers

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## Support for CB-16 and CB-17

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**From** Jean Joklik [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:28 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

### **WARNING!!!**

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Dear County Council Members,

We are writing to express our community's shock regarding the pending approval of an ICE detention facility in Howard County. We are deeply concerned that this project has reached such an advanced stage without significant public discourse or oversight.

Specifically, we seek clarification on the internal processes that allowed this facility to move through routine zoning permits without public hearings. Given the impact such a facility has on the safety and well-being of our residents, the use of local resources to facilitate these actions is unacceptable to many in this community.

We request a transparent explanation of the timeline and the decisions that enabled this process to bypass public scrutiny. We look forward to your prompt response regarding how the Council intends to address these concerns and ensure greater oversight moving forward.

While we fully support CB-16 and CB-17, we expect a thorough examination of the loopholes that forced the County Executive to propose emergency legislation to stop the final approval of this facility. Proper governance is essential, especially when federal immigration actions bring instability to local communities.

Thank you for your prompt action to protect our community.

Sincerely,

Jean Joklik  
Resident, Howard County

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## Supporting CB16 and CB17

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**From** Jeremy Gottwig [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 10:00 AM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

### **WARNING!!!**

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My name is Jeremy Gottwig (he/him). I am a DSA member and a member of AFSCME local 1072. I live in Hickory Ridge, Columbia.

Today I am writing in support of CB16 and CB17.

I have immigrant neighbors. My kids have immigrant friends. Placing barriers on DHS operating in Howard County is paramount to every family's safety and security. Local detention centers will only make it easier for ICE and Customs & Border Patrol to escalate their invasion into our neighborhoods. We've seen videos and images of their terror campaigns in Portland, Chicago, and especially Minneapolis. Many of us are prepared to invest time and energy into protesting and documenting ICE/CBP abuses in HoCo, but I believe the county council can blockade DHS terror campaigns with strident and proactive legislation as evidenced by CB16 and CB17.

In addition to these measures, I encourage legislation into public legal defense funding and a quick response network for those targeted by ICE/CBP. I would also like to see the council demand lists of those already detained. Such a list could be shared with organizations such as CASA.

Thank you for reading and for your proactive work in protecting our communities.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Gottwig

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## Support for Emergency Bill CB17-2026

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**From** Jessica Estrogano [REDACTED] >  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:48 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Cc** Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>; Ball, Calvin <cball@howardcountymd.gov>; CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov <CouncilDistrict2@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Howard County Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for Emergency Bill CB17-2026, which would require the County Executive to develop and publish clear guidance related to interactions with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) on County property, require County departments to adopt policies consistent with that guidance, and render County contracts with ICE void and unenforceable.

This legislation is both necessary and timely. County residents, employees, and visitors deserve clarity and consistency regarding how ICE interactions are handled on County property. In the absence of formal guidance, uncertainty places County staff in an untenable position and undermines public trust in local government. Clear, publicly available standards will help ensure that County actions are lawful, transparent, and aligned with the County's values.

Requiring County departments to adopt policies consistent with this guidance is essential to ensure uniform implementation across all agencies. Without such consistency, residents may experience unequal treatment depending on the department or facility involved, which is unacceptable.

I also want to be explicit: I do not want ICE operating in my county, my state, or my country at all. ICE's presence and practices create fear, destabilize families, and inflict real harm on our communities. I support any and all efforts by this County to limit the terror and violence ICE brings and to prevent County resources, facilities, or contracts from enabling that harm in any way.

Rendering County contracts with ICE void and unenforceable is therefore a critical step. Local government should be focused on providing essential services and fostering public safety through trust and cooperation—not through entanglements with an agency whose actions discourage residents from accessing services or engaging with local institutions.

As an emergency measure, CB17-2026 appropriately recognizes the urgency of providing immediate clarity and protections for both County employees and the public. I urge the Council to pass this bill

without delay.

Thank you for your leadership and for your consideration of this important matter.

Respectfully,  
Jessica Estrogano  
Howard County, Maryland Resident

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**Re: CB16-2026 & CB17-2026**

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**From** John Lamb [REDACTED]  
**Date** Mon 2/2/2026 9:38 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Howard County Council,

I urge you to adopt bills CB16-2026 & CB17-2026.

My high school Chemistry Teacher was fond of telling us when presented with a particularly hard problem to "find the concrete" - What's concrete? Stuff you put in to make a problem harder. Once we identified the extraneous, the problems were easier to identify and solve.

Immigration is a problem that has been filled with "concrete", and I believe I can simplify.

To whit, that which is abhorrent to be done to you, do not subject to another.

Are there any circumstances where you would assent to you or a family member to be taken at an unexpected time, rendered without due process, separated from your home and community, and cast out to an unfriendly foreign land?

The answer is of course no. So those who wish to do it anyway resort to labeling some other group as somehow subhuman or inhuman.

In the abrahamic religions it is stated that the original sin is Adam & Eve eating from the tree of knowledge; I contend that the original sin, or "fundamental problem of humanity" is better expressed in the story of Cain and Abel. Cain convinced himself that he had no obligation to protect and care for his brother, and in doing so found it easy to murder him. Dehumanizing others, and abandoning our responsibility to them is the fundamental flaw of humans and one we must overcome.

Therefore the danger is, when you start dehumanizing some you create the mechanisms that will eventually be used to dehumanize you. When dehumanization is invoked, the immediate necessary action is to circle the wagons around all of humanity. None of us are free unless all of us are free. An attack on the humanity of any group, represents an imminent attack on the humanity of all.

Therefore, we cannot participate in Stephen Miller's inhumane campaign on our neighbors. All children are our children. All families are our family.

A common thought exercise when learning about the Holocaust is to confront how easy it was for German citizens to go along with the genocide, in an attempt to save themselves, or just not deal with reality. We are being given an unwelcome (but it seems, necessary) opportunity to find out what we would have done.

I stand for humanity, our neighbors, and in opposition of those who would set us upon our brothers and sisters. ICE detention centers have no place in Howard County. Never Again means everyone, and Never Again is now!

Sincerely,

John Lamb  
Columbia, MD

**I support ICE OUT of HoCo**

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**From** Kali Smith [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:05 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Council,

I cannot attend the meetings but I am writing to you as a Howard County resident and voter to voice my support for CB16 and CB17.

Thank you,

Kali (she/they)

## Emergency Bill CB17

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**From** Karen Luman [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:34 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Council Members for Howard County MD;

I am writing in support of Emergency Bill CB17. ICE should have no home in Howard County Maryland.

Thank you, Liz Walsh, for informing me of this emergency bill and for working to ensure ICE has no home in Howard County.

Sincerely,  
Karen Luman

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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support CB17-2026

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From Katie W [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 2/4/2026 2:10 PM  
To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Howard County Council Members,

My name is Katherine Wilkins. I'm a resident of Howard County district 2 writing to ask you to pass CB17-2026. In light of immigration enforcement consistently violating the rights of citizens and non-citizens alike, as well as murdering two peaceful people in Minneapolis, I do not believe that it is in the interest of anyone living in Howard County for our government to cooperate with immigration enforcement any more than required by law. Please pass this legislation for the protection of the people living in our county.

Best,  
Katherine Wilkins

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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CB-16 & CB-17

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From Kat Uy [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 2/4/2026 2:19 PM  
To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Hello Councilmembers,

As the child of an immigrant and a librarian who helps our immigrant communities, I am deeply disturbed by the actions of ICE most recently in Minnesota but the fact they are here in Howard County terrorizing our friends and neighbors.

**Demarcating private spaces matters** and we need to do that to offer as much legal protection

from ICE as possible (CB17).

**Keeping ICE off County properties** will make access to resources, community life, etc. safer for our communities (CB17)

**Everyone deserves to live in safety**, and to have representatives and community that demonstrates they care about their safety.

**"This is a vital step"** and we need it to pass.

**The fight does not end until we abolish ICE.**

**Everything we can do to limit ICE matters.**

**It is important to know that our representatives care about the safety of our community** — we are thankful for this action and we hope to see continued legislative/political action to protect our communities from the threat of ICE, from human rights violations, and to

resist/combat mass deportations and mass incarceration!

**It is important for county employees and local businesses to have guidance** on how to interact with ICE to help protect our community members.

**Having publicly available procedures** will reflect care for our communities and make us safer. We need to respond to these threats to safety with the attention community members deserve.

(CB17)

**ICE has only existed since 2003 and its existence HAS NOT** measurably improved anyone's life, but **HAS** caused grave harms and widespread fear for too many.

**We need to loudly reject what ICE is doing.** We need to stand up so that more localities, state and local governments can see that they can stand up to ICE. We need to build on the already popular support behind abolishing ICE, and expand and grow it. Marylanders care about human rights and we want our government to fight for what is right.

**People do not deserve to suffer over crossing a colonial border.** Especially when a major reason for crossing is because our country has contributed to other countries' misery.

**To our council members, you may not directly impact our foreign policy choices, but we** ask that you use your voice and actions to stand up for justice in this area. Starting with your

choices about how the county government invests its money, show our care for people

everywhere, especially including those who are suffering genocides.

**The scapegoating of immigrants is used**

- **To divide our communities** and make us accept less.

- **To scare people into giving up rights,** and divert attention from what the very wealthy - and the policies that give them preferential treatment - do to actually make us poorer.

- So, when a community stands up for immigrants, this really benefits the entire community.

**We must defend against - and work to disarm - the weapons of hate, indifference and greed.**

**We are stronger together.**

**Let's work together to protect** those who are unjustly made more vulnerable at this particular political moment - and let's fight for a better life for all of us.

**We reject the lie** that colonial borders are something to be guarded against a "foreign invasion."

**We reject white supremacy** and the project of some to maintain a white racial majority through deportations, through incarceration, through violence and terror.

**We reject the project of the ethnostate everywhere,** whether here in Maryland or in Tel Aviv -

where some Palestinians and Israelis have shown great courage and community in coming together to advocate against genocide and war. Let us follow their example.

**We must say no to our country's participation in funding genocide** - we must force it to stop. So, in addition to banning contracts with ICE (CB17), let's set more regulations for where

the Howard County government's money is invested, in order not to build up the power of those

who bomb children or commit other abuses. Let's more consistently use our financial

stewardship to support wellbeing.

**Let us stand for love, community care, and the freedom** that comes with knowing and showing that we are all equal. All of us have a part to play, and this legislation is a needed part.

**To our County Council members,** we ask that you

●

**Pass it** and then build on it further.

●

**Give us legislation** to publicly fund a legal aid and quick response network for those targeted by ICE.

●

**Use your platforms to build up the pressure to abolish ICE**—including by making it clear to those who represent us in the House and Senate that they must fight for this●

until the victory is won. In the same way, fight-and build pressure-to prosecute those who

took part in violating the rights of the people.

**Require the county to monitor and report on the wrongdoings of ICE.**

Thank you.

Kathleen (Kat) Uy

Sent from my iPhone

**Support for CB16-2026 and CB17-2026**

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**From** Kelly McVicker [REDACTED]  
**Date** Mon 2/2/2026 9:44 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Good evening,

I would like to make known my support as a private citizen of Howard County, MD for CB16-2026 and CB17-2026.

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**I support both CB16 and CB17**

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**From** Linfeng Chen [REDACTED]  
**Date** Tue 2/3/2026 10:14 AM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear County Council,

My name is Linfeng Chen from North Laurel. As an immigrant, I cannot stay silent while the current ICE operations cause fear and harm in our community. Regardless of whether you are a U.S. citizen, a green card holder, or an undocumented immigrant, we are facing the same threat when executive power is exercised without limits. What we are witnessing is inhumane and out of control. The Renee Good and Alex Pretti incidents are not isolated moments, they are warning signs of an enforcement system being used recklessly and for political gain, with real people paying the price. Detentions without due process and without judicial warrants undermine the rule of law and open the door to abuse. Howard County must stand for humanity, dignity, fairness, and the rule of law. All people are created equal. Please pass CB16-2026 and CB17-2026. Thank you!

Linfeng Chen, PhD

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For A STRONGER AND SAFER COMMUNITY  
DEMOCRAT FOR DISTRICT 4 HOWARD COUNTY  
Email [Chen4d4@gmail.com](mailto:Chen4d4@gmail.com)  
Website [Chen4d4.org](http://Chen4d4.org)  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/chen4d4>  
Integrity + Inclusion + Innovation

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**CB16 and CB17**

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**From** Lisa Siano [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 10:50 AM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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I am writing to strongly encourage the passage of CB 16 and CB17. We don't want ICE detention centers in Elkridge or anywhere else in Maryland. We want ICE out of county contracts, we want ICE restricted from being on county property, and we want county employees and local businesses to be given guidance on how to handle interactions with ICE.

These bills will accomplish exactly that. I urge immediate passage of these bills.

Thank you for your kind attention.

*Lisa Siano*

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**CB17 comments**

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**From** Lori Lilly [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 10:16 AM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Good morning Howard County Council,

Thank you for supporting the CB16 initiative and for supporting the revocation permits for a private ICE detention facility in HC.

Regarding CB17, I have some concerns / questions. I think it puts too much pressure and onus on county employees to deal with potential ICE interactions. I'm imagining any of the employees at the Roger Carter Center where I swim having to fulfill the obligations set forth in the bill and refuse to cooperate with ICE. As an employer myself, I can't imagine forcing my employees to do such a thing. To not cooperate with armed Federal agents? It's one thing on your own time but if you're not wearing a uniform yourself and you're at work at the front desk of the pool or any other county facility - I think this is too much to ask of most County employees. Even with a designated ICE liason at each facility / public building - what if that person is on vacation or out sick and someone else has to manage the matter? The amount of training involved in this would be extremely intense. Employees would also have to report to their supervisors and higher ups if they see ICE activity on county property - what if they have reason to be concerned about getting involved - would their non-compliance would be punitive? I agree with posting signage saying ICE is not welcome at identified public buildings and parking lots but a lot of the remaining part of the bill doesn't seem feasible to enforce and makes me concerned for the county employees that would need to abide by it.

Thank you,

Lori

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Lori A. Lilly, CEP, CBLP

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**Written Testimony for CB16-2026 CB17-2026 Hearing (2/4/26)**

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From Just-some-random-eel <[REDACTED]>

Date Wed 2/4/2026 11:56 AM

To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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The following is a written testimony supporting legislation CB16-2026 and CB17-2026 for their hearing on Wednesday 2/4/26 by Magnolia "Gil" Steuernagle, 16 years old, resident of zip code 21042 in Ellicott City, Maryland.

When I think about what it means to live in Howard County, I think about walking through the halls of Centennial high school and hearing all the different languages that my peer speak. I think back to a few years ago, hanging out with my older sister's boyfriend and his family, who didn't speak English as a first language, but that didn't matter because I could see the obvious joy as his younger brother face as we sat on my back deck, dying Easter eggs and eating strawberries. I think about going to work with my coworker who only knows a couple words in English, but that doesn't matter when something funny happens, and we can both look at each other and laugh because even though we don't speak the same language, we're both still human.

All of these past experiences are why, as a Howard County resident, I completely support legislations CB16-2026 and CB17-2026. I don't want to lose these moments because my neighbors are afraid that they will be taken from their families and put the detention center in their very own county. I don't want my peers at school to be too afraid to attend classes out of fear that an immigration agent might take them away and put them in a detention center. I don't want my coworkers to be too afraid to show up to work because they might be put in a detention center built in their very own county. I want all of my neighbors, throughout all of Howard County, to feel safe and protected by their legislation and rest easy knowing that no immigration detention center will be built on private or County owned property. CB16-2026 and CB17-2026, if passed, will help keep that solace alive in an already nationally difficult time for immigrants and people of color. Howard county is so diverse and I don't wanna see that diversity go away due to fear. Thank you for reading.

**CB17**

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**From** Mia Lehman [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:16 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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To whom it may concern:

I am writing in support of the CB17 bill. It is imperative that the council votes in favor of this bill, to ensure that ICE contracts are rendered useless and cannot be fulfilled in Howard County. It is also key that this bill is passed in order for guidelines to be established and implemented for managing interactions with ICE. These guidelines will hopefully set a precedent and show ICE that they have no grounds to threaten people in Howard County and elsewhere.

This bill is a key step in ensuring the safety of all Howard County residents. Everyone is welcome here, and ICE has no place here.

Thank you for your time,  
M. Lehman

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**Support for CB16-2026 and CB172026**

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**From** Monica O'Connor [REDACTED]  
**Date** Tue 2/3/2026 4:20 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear members,

I am a Howard County resident - and like many people nationwide I am horrified by the actions of our Federal Government's Immigration policy. It is clear that the antidote to our government's cruelty and lawlessness is for good people across this nation to stand up and say enough.

I was in the crowd at the County Council building last on February 2, unable to enter because we exceeded fire codes! This is how we win back decency and democracy.

I am grateful and proud that Howard County will revoke the permit for the would be ICE detention camp in Elkridge - and prohibit detention camps for profit going forward. I am grateful and proud that the council will vote to ensure that all county agencies will treat every person in Howard County with dignity, decency and humanity. I am proud that Howard County was highlighted on the Rachel Maddow Show last night - as yet another place in America where people are standing on the right side of history. I am actively sending our news to my family and friends across this country - because courage and righteousness breed courage and righteousness.

Thank you for you favorable votes on CB16 and CB17. We are stronger together.

Respectfully,

Monica Oconnor  
Ellicott City

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## Support for CB16 and CB17 - Stop Private Detention Center in Elkridge

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**From** Pesce Photo [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 2:09 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

### **WARNING!!!**

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Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of CB16 and CB17 regarding the proposed Detention Center at 6522 Meadowridge Road in Elkridge.

I am concerned about the health, welfare, and safety implications of a private, third-party company setting up a detention facility in our neighborhood. Allowing this facility sets a dangerous precedent for privatized detention without appropriate public oversight.

I support County Executive Calvin Ball's action to revoke the building permits and strongly urge the Council to pass this emergency legislation to ensure that this facility cannot move forward.

Thank you for your time,  
N. Pesce

---

**Support for Council Bills CB16-2026, CB-17-2026: Protect us from ICE**

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From LightShineBright2 [REDACTED]

Date Tue 2/3/2026 4:29 PM

To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>; Ball, Calvin <cball@howardcountymd.gov>; CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov <CouncilDistrict4@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Council Member Deb Jung (District 4), Howard County Council, and Dr. Ball,

As your constituent, I thank you for your actions regarding two emergency bills, one from Dr. Calvin Ball (CB16-2026) and co-sponsored by Opel Jones, Deb Jung, Christiana Rigby, and Liz Walsh. I appreciated Dr. Ball's Monday speech announcing the emergency legislation.

Also, I thank Council Member Liz Walsh for the submission of CB17-2026.

I strongly urge the passing and implementation of both bills, CB16-2026 and CB-17-2026, to protect our neighbors and community from the lawless acts of ICE and its seeking to open private detention centers in Howard County.

Such facilities are a public health and safety threat. In addition to denying due process and human rights to detainees, conditions at ICE detention centers are cruel and inhumane. Private detention centers profit from such conditions. All are attempting to operate without transparency or accountability. These centers pose great risks to the people living near them in regards to public health and safety. For example, the Dilly detention center in Texas is presently under quarantine due to a measles outbreak among the children detained there. ICE agents operating near detention centers are masked, anonymous, and threatening. We refuse to allow such detention facilities close to local schools, medical facilities, parks, and public facilities.

The lawless actions of ICE killed various people as federal immigration agents attempted to arrest and detain people as well as stop legal observations. Wearing masks, agents act even more brutally without accountability. Masked individuals without badges and identification bring greater risks to our community especially near schools, primary care health centers, parks, shopping centers, and neighborhoods.

Please pass and implement both bills, CB16-2026 and CB-17-2026, to protect our neighbors and community from the lawless acts of ICE and its seeking to open private detention centers in Howard County.

Thank you for your support and quick actions to protect our people,  
Rebecca Groff  
[REDACTED]

---

## Residential Support for CB16 and CB17

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**From** Roxana Hadadi [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 12:22 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>

### **WARNING!!!**

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Hello,

My name is Roxana Hadadi, and I have been a resident of Oakland Mills in Columbia for the past five years. I'm writing ahead of tonight's public hearing to voice my strong support for the two pieces of legislation being discussed, CB16 and CB17. I hope you will do the right thing in supporting this legislation.

As the child of immigrants who came to this country 50 years ago, I have been horrified and frightened by the prevalence and normalcy with which armed men in masks have terrorized people who look like me, and murdered, with impunity, people lawfully protesting their actions. No one should have to cower in fear that they could be harassed or kidnapped or worse while just trying to live, not in Minneapolis or Portland or here in Howard County.

The Trump administration's fascist goon squad must be opposed at every opportunity, and "Abolish ICE" should not be seen as a radical position, but instead the bare minimum if this country has a hope of surviving another three years. Numerous polls have shown that this stance has wide support across the country. It takes action from brave elected officials to meet the moment that their constituents support, and these two pieces of legislation are very much part of that.

The two proposed pieces of legislation serve as a strong foundation in starting to counter the racist and disgusting actions of ICE, and DHS, and the entire Trump administration. With their passage and constant vigilance, Howard County can do its part to help stem the creeping spread of modern fascism and maintain our place as a community residents are proud to call home. I've seen the fear spreading through the Howard County community at the actions of ICE -- I've seen posts on Nextdoor, on Ring, on Facebook, on all kinds of community groups. People are afraid and they expect their elected officials to support them. You should.

I will strongly support any further legislation that seeks to oppose ICE's cruel efforts, including the establishment of public legal defense funds, citizen outreach resources, county-wide banning of masks for law enforcement, and any other measures necessary to keep residents safe and informed. Please do the right thing. Your constituents are asking for it.

Passionately,  
Roxana

**CB17-2026**

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**From** roxanne sai [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 10:01 AM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Cc** Ball, Calvin <cball@howardcountymd.gov>

 1 attachment (17 KB)  
MD\_CB17-2026\_IceDetentionCenter.docx;

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Hello,

I have my written testimony voting for not allowing a permit to a facility to be operated as an ICE detention center here in Howard County, CB17-2026 bill, for tonight pasted below, as well as attached for your review.

Sincerely,

Roxanna Moores

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February 4th, 2025

Roxanna Moores

District 3

Honorable Council member Dr. Calvin Ball

Honorable Council member Liz Walsh

Honorable Council member Pat Young

Honorable Council Vice-chair Christiana Rigby

3430 Court House Drive

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Howard County Council Members:

My name is Roxanna Moores, and I am a constituent of district 3 in Maryland. I would like to request that Howard County not grant a permit to privately owned facilities to operate as a detention center in our community.

The Trump administration has not demonstrated the judgement to select responsible leadership to run ICE in a proper and acceptable fashion. We do not want a repeat of the abuse, criminality and incompetence that the ICE organization has inflicted upon the people of the State of California, Illinois and Minnesota on our friends, neighbors and communities here in Maryland. We do not want any community member, including disabled individuals, pregnant woman, minorities, LGBTQ, people of color, immigrants, and white people to have their vehicle windows smashed, be dragged out, pepper sprayed, beaten and shot by ICE, while ICE is conducting an arrest. We do not want five-year-olds or any age children in our communities to be used as bait to arrest their mother, father or any family member. We do not want to see our community members, who are only exercising their right to protest government misconduct, to be executed on the street by ICE.

We do not share the values, or lack of values, of the ICE organization in this current administration. We believe in a civilized and kind society for our community. We believe in states' rights, and in our state, the ICE organization of this administration is not wanted or welcome here.

Please vote to not allow a permit for an ICE detention center here in Howard County. We do not want ICE here.

Sincerely,

Roxanna Moores

Maryland constituent of District 3

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Re: B16-2016 and B17-2016

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From Sharon Schwemin [REDACTED]  
Date Tue 2/3/2026 6:03 PM  
To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Hello —

I want to be on the record

- No private detention centers in Howard County,  
and
- Keep ICE off County properties, out of County contracts, and provide both County employees and local businesses with info about how to handle interactions with ICE.

Thank you for acting on this! If only Congress could do the same (with this, and so much else).

Sharon Schwemin  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

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**Testimony in support of CB16 and CB17.**

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**From** tahira HUSSAIN [REDACTED]  
**Date** Tue 2/3/2026 5:00 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Respected Council members

I Tahira Mussarat Hussain resident of 11708 pindell chase drive fulton MD20759

I am writing this testimony to support CB 16 and CB17

and we community and residents of Howard county support action of our county Executive Calvin Ball.

I commend County Executive Ball & local leaders in Howard Co for working to block ICE's attempt to set up another detention facility in Maryland.

We saw the inhumanity of ICE's operation in Baltimore & Marylanders have made it clear we do not want these facilities in our state. As our county executive Dr. Calvin ball said

*“Our strength comes from people of different backgrounds, cultures, and experiences choosing to call this place home. And, I believe, deeply and unequivocally, that the civil rights of all our residents must be protected. We will continue to stand firm against any criminalization of our residents based on immigration status, race, ethnicity, or any other protected characteristic under our laws.”* **Calvin Ball** Howard County Executive

we dont want any private detention center in howard county Maryland.

This emergency legislation by County Executive Dr. Calvin Ball to prohibit the permitting of privately owned facilities operating as detention centers in Howard County. i strongly support this legislation.

Thank you so much

Tahira Mussarat Hussain

[REDACTED]  
Resident of howard county for 32 years

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**Support for CB16 and CB17 - Stop Private Detention Center in Elkridge**

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**From** Tanya Janish [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 10:29 AM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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Dear Council Members,

I am writing to urge you to vote in favor of CB16 and CB17 regarding the proposed detention center at 6522 Meadowridge Road in Elkridge.

I am concerned about the health, welfare, and safety implications of a private, third-party company setting up a detention facility in our neighborhood. Allowing this facility sets a dangerous precedent for privatized detention without appropriate public oversight.

I support County Executive Ball's action to revoke the building permits and strongly urge the Council to pass this emergency legislation to ensure that this facility cannot move forward.

Thank you,  
Tanya Zirbel

CB-17

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From Terry Thayer [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 2/4/2026 2:14 PM  
To CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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To: Howard County Council,  
I, Terance A. Thayer, am in full support of CB-17.  
ICE, given their current tactics and bullying have no place in Howard  
County or in the USA for that matter. ICE needs to be put under strict  
control and made to conduct themselves the same as every other law  
enforcement organization.

Again, I am in full support of CB-17.

Sincerely,  
Terance A. Thayer

## ICE OUT

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**From** wren morgan [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 2/4/2026 1:28 PM  
**To** CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>

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I urge all of you to support CB17.

As a resident of Howard County for 55 years, I am proud of the safety and security here. I am grateful for the immigrants who have added to our culture. I am so thankful to have my Constitutional rights.

ICE is out of control .It is not acting as it has for years. It is a threat to our democracy. We need to stop them now. Please support any legislation that will stop ICE.

Wren Morgan

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad