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Testimony on favor of CB 9 2017



pedro760@gmail.com

Wed 1/18, 12:07 AM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Testimony in Support of Bill CB9-2017

Howard County MD USA

January 117, 2017

=====

My name is Pedro Reyes, I am a United States Citizen currently residing at 8943 Tamar Drive Apt 30-2, Columbia Maryland.

I am a Howard County Resident since June 2005, I also work in Howard County since August 2006. I am a Board of Immigration Appeals Accredited Representative, this testimony is presented as an individual citizen.

I am here in support of the bill **CB9-2017**

What is a sanctuary city? The most accurate definition of a sanctuary city is a city that has decided to leave immigration enforcement to the federal government, so that their own police force can concentrate on fighting crime. That's hardly a radical idea; it is a principle that the Supreme Court affirmed in *Arizona vs. U.S.* (2012), which found that only the federal government had authority over immigration enforcement

Sanctuary cities make sense because they allow unauthorized immigrants to report crime and volunteer as witnesses with local police, which makes everyone safer. Consider that a long list of cities, mayors, crime victims and law enforcement groups have spoken out against a proposal by House Republicans to withhold federal monies from sanctuary cities.

Sanctuary policies are legal and protected by the Tenth Amendment. The Tenth Amendment of the US Constitution provides for the separation of federal and state powers. According to the Immigrant Legal Resource Center, the Amendment prevents the "federal government from coercing state or local governments to use their resources to enforce a federal regulatory program, like immigration," and, thus, Congress cannot compel state or local governments to collect immigration status information in order to share it with the federal government. [1] [2] Because the data are never collected due to "don't ask, don't tell" policies, the local and state governments are not in violation of federal law. [1]

Sanctuary cities are needed to protect undocumented immigrants against federal immigration laws. Many people state that the federal immigration deportation policies are unjust because they target undocumented immigrants indiscriminately, deport people who have lived in the United States since childhood, deport people who have committed no crimes, separate families, and cause people to live in constant fear of deportation and its devastating consequences. Libby Schaaf, Mayor of Oakland, CA, said, "I like to compare this to conscientious objector status. We are not going to use our resources to enforce what we believe are unjust immigration laws." [3]

Until our country enacts a comprehensive immigration reform, sanctuary cities make our cities safer. It is misguided, uninformed and myopic to attack them as bad policy.

Thank you for your attention

PEDRO REYES

1.-Immigrant Legal Resource Center, "FAQ on Federal Grant Conditions and Cooperation with Immigration Enforcement," ilrc.org, July 2016

2.- Michael John Garcia, "'Sanctuary Cities': Legal Issues," ilw.com, Jan. 15, 2009

3.- Jennifer Medina and Jess Bidgood, "Cities Vow to Fight Trump on Immigration, Even If They Lose Millions," nytimes.com, Nov. 28, 2016

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Supporting CB9-2017



Cynthia Parr <csparr1@yahoo.com>

Wed 1/18, 1:08 AM

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CB9-2017

Dear Mr Weinstein,

As a member of your district, I urge you to vote for CB9-2017.

We must prevent the slide of the US into a fascism where hard-working, vulnerable people are afraid.

Howard County is strong because we are a community. Communities take care of their members.

Cyndy Parr
4038 Chariots Flight Way
Ellicott City

...

CB-9 Testimony



no-reply@howardcountymd.gov

Wed 1/18, 7:39 AM

dobbsda@gmail.com

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CB9-2017



Action Items



First Name: David

Last Name: Dobbs

Email: dobbsda@gmail.com

Street Address: 8232 elko dr

City: ellicott city

Subject: CB-9 Testimony

Message: Council Members, Why were the unregistered, non-taxpaying, under-aged, non-voting students allowed to speak before the registered, taxpaying, voting, adults? We all had to go to work ourselves this morning..... Also, if it was a "free podium" why did the chairman allow more testimony from one side than the other? What if there had been 20 more students from one side there - would they all have been allowed to speak? Dave Dobbs

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Equality in speakers at CB-9



Dave Dobbs <dobbsda@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 7:46 AM

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CB9-2017



Action Items



Council Members,

Why were the unregistered, non-taxpaying, under-aged, non-voting students allowed to speak, or even speak at all, before the registered, taxpaying, voting, adults? We all had to go to work ourselves this morning.....

Also, it appeared it was a "free podium session" and any student present could speak. Why did the chairman allow more testimony from one side than the other? Should it not have been equal representation since there was no pre-registration required? What if there had been 20 more students from one side there - would they all have been allowed to speak?

Although the opinions of the students is of some worth, but when they start paying into the County coffers, then they should be allowed to speak.

Thank you for your fairness to this and future testimony,
Dave Dobbs
2nd District

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CB9



Traci <tracibullockbarnhart@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 8:18 AM

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CB9-2017

I support CB9!

Thank you.
Traci Barnhart
Ellicott City

Sent from my iPad

Council Bill CB9-2017 The "Sanctuary Act" -introduced by Dr. Calvin Ball and Ms. Jen Terrasa

My name is Alan McLaine and I live in the Longfellow neighborhood of Harper's Choice Village in Columbia. I have been a resident for nearly thirty years, and both of my sons graduated in the mid-1990s from Centennial H.S. I stand this evening to testify in favor of the Sanctuary Act. I support the language which reads: we must act now and always to uphold our commitment to be a community free of prejudice, bigotry, and hate. Barely a month ago, I attended a community meeting at HCC which was a "Speak Out Against Hate" event. Many elected officials were present and on the stage along with religious and community leaders. The audience was notably diverse-in age and color-nationality and faith-to reflect the broad concern about hate and prejudice in our Howard County community. There was a lot of testimony from students and adults about being undocumented-mainly by being brought to this country when they were very young-and their fear of deportation. I view the Sanctuary Bill as one of the ways our community can take a stand to protect these law abiding citizens from deportation and to affirm that all people are welcomed and safe in our community.

In 2014, President Obama proposed national legislation to delay deportation of undocumented children and their parents. The republican party opposed these measures, and the Supreme Court was deadlocked on this issue. There is no doubt that the incoming administration of Donald Trump will fight any such effort. In fact, he has threatened mass deportations and disparaged, in particular, Mexicans and Muslims with very hateful words. Consequently, local governments have to step up for this cause. The people we must welcome and provide sanctuary for are the same people we see every day in the grocery stores and shopping malls; the same children who share the learning in our school's classrooms; the refugees who seek a home free from war and human rights abuses.

I urge all members of the Howard County Counsel to vote in favor of this bill and I urge our our County Executive to sign it into law.

Thank-you,

Alan McLaine

5328 Eliots Oak Rd.

Columbia. MD 21044

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Sanctuary City Status



dick <d.shope@ymail.com>

Wed 1/18, 9:45 AM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

Dear Councilman,

I was very disappointed when I heard your proposal to make Howard County a sanctuary city.

Actually it outraged me to think that one person would propose such an important issue for a handful of officials to arbitrarily decide for the residents of Howard County.

We are a land of laws. Sanctuary city status is contrary to the laws of this great country. Let's start enforcing all of our laws. We can't pick and choose for political gain.

Let's put America first.

Respectfully,

Dick

Sent from my iPhone

Re: CB9-2017

JN

Jen Nussbaum <jennussbaum@proactivemedicalconsultants.com>

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Wed 1/18, 9:58 AM

CouncilMail ▼

CB9-2017

I.Oppose.CB9.pdf
728 KB



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Dear Council Members,

I was in attendance last evening, however, I had to leave. I would like my opinion on record about this bill as I am not sure if I missed my chance to voice my opinion in person or not. There was a link to upload your testimony but it is no longer there (or I can't find it).

I would like to say though that I was appalled that it appears the advocates for this bill received special treatment in getting their voices heard first. Another grandstand play, in my opinion.

What I did not put on my testimony was that my mother was a holocaust survivor. I can appreciate the hardships and struggles of coming over here from another country. It is a slap in my parents face who came over here legally to allow this bill to pass.

I adamantly oppose this bill.

See you tonight.

Thank you for your time.



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Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

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jennussbaum@proactivemedicalconsultants.com

www.PROACTIVEMEDICALCONSULTANTS.com

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Regarding CB9-2017 – Immigration and Sanctuary Bill Proposal Opposition

Harboring Aliens in Violation of Law. 8 U.S.C. 1324 states:

"Any person who...knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that an alien has come to, entered, or remains in the United States in violation of law, conceals, harbors, or shields from detection, or attempts to conceal, harbor, or shield from detection, such alien in any place, ...; encourages or induces an alien to come to, enter, or reside in the United States, knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that such coming to, entry, or residence is or will be in violation of law; or engages in any conspiracy to commit any of the preceding acts, or aids or abets the commission of any of the preceding acts, shall be...fined under title 18, imprisoned not more than 5 years, or both..."¹²

I am the daughter of immigrants who came to this country seeking a better life. I am a first generation American so I can relate to being the child of an immigrant. Most people immigrate to the United States in hopes of a better life for themselves and their children. We hope that is true for all immigrants coming over here. Unfortunately, it is not.

There are people coming over here whose main mission is to kill us and destroy America. They all look the same. How can we tell who the good guys are from the bad guys?

There is that one fraction of this current immigrant population that is coming over here that wants to do us harm. Others want to milk off our system. You can ignore it, put your head in the sand, deny it but it is here. Something our current council members are choosing to ignore. It is unacceptable, for even one person, to be allowed into our county whose mission is to do us harm. It is wrong and one too many. Granted most immigrants that are coming over today want to assimilate but there is that growing scary unknown element that wants to come here, take advantage of us and bring us harm. We, as American citizens have the right to live in our country without fear. We demand it. We as American citizens have never been so afraid or felt more vulnerable than as we do now.

I oppose CB9 for many reasons. I think it is a divisive bill that is instilling more fear and anger in the community. It is just wrong. I feel it is encouraging and enabling people to break the law. By not abiding by immigration laws, you will potentially allow this dangerous element into our county. We already know that they exist and are probably here already but to either ignore their existence or welcome them with open arms, as this bill appears to do, is just wrong. To potentially sacrifice many because someone does want to have to show citizenship is absurd and selfish. Do you really think that carrying around proof of citizenship outweighs the big picture? Not even counting in the economic implications that this bill will cause. "No Enforcement of Immigration Laws" pretty much says it all. We will be breaking the law by passing this bill. Are you willing to take responsibility for the repercussions of this bill? Because have no doubt Mr. Ball and Ms. Terrasa, if this bill is passed and even one person is the victim of a hate crime in Howard County, fatal or nonfatal, you will be responsible, will be held accountable and there will be blood on your hands. Thank you for your consideration.

Jen Nussbaum

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN TO GET THESE ILLEGALS?

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CB9-2017



Roxanne <Bulliezeus@verizon.net>

Wed 1/18, 10:03 AM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

To all Council Members,

After sitting and listening to the many residents for many hours last evening, I sincerely hope that you will all give serious thought to our Police Chiefs testimony. His opposition to this Bill should speak volumes to you all. I urge you to put your political thoughts aside and respect our Chief's input and Vote NO on this Bill.

No to CB-2017! No to making Howard County a sanctuary!

Sent from my iPhone

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RE: Sanctuary Status for Howard Co.



Laura Lee Cox <volkmannhomerepair@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:17 AM

CouncilMail

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CB9-2017

Dear Council Members

I am writing to you to **fiercely encourage** all members of Howard Co.'s Council to earnestly support **making Howard Co. a sanctuary county** for those who are soon to be oppressed by the incoming presidential administration. There are no words in any language ancient or modern that can give you the level of support that I have for this action. Anything less than sanctuary for our county is morally reprehensible and evil in my opinion.

THIS IS NOT POLITICAL IT IS MORAL. ARE WE MORAL OR EVIL IN HOWARD CO.?

I will not apologize for shouting in print. This should be shouted from the rooftops 24/7.

Sincerely,

Laura Lee Cox

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"It's Fixed"

443-878-7748

Email

volkmannhomerepair@gmail.com

Website

www.volkmannhomerepair.com

Testimony in support of CB9-2017



Mickey Gomez <mickey.gomez@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:23 AM

CouncilMail



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Thank you kindly for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of CB9-2017.

In the interest of transparency I will begin by saying that I am not currently a county resident nor do I work within the county. However, I serve on non-profit committees and boards and I volunteer within the county. I have both lived and worked in Howard County (I grew up here), and I maintain strong ties with the county through family members, colleagues and friends.

There were two events held following the Presidential election in Howard County, MD—One Howard and Speak Up, Stand Up Howard—convened to discuss events related to hate speech and harassment in our community. I attended both.

It was difficult to sit and listen to story after story of discrimination, of harassment, of bullying and assault, of helplessness and hopelessness in the face of overt acts of racism and xenophobia and homophobia and misogyny. It became clear that people were choosing to speak out for a variety of reasons, but one reason that showed up time and time again was this: they felt neglected, and abandoned, and ignored. They felt unheard, silenced. They felt targeted, unsafe in their own community. They felt that there was no recourse open to them other than to raise their voices high in front of their friends and neighbors and community leaders and elected officials in yet another effort to begin to address the wrongs that they've suffered through the years here in our community.

Based on their comments, many of those who spoke tried to have their concerns addressed through the system. They made the right calls, requested the right meetings, went through the right processes to document and seek help and support, all to no avail.

On more than one occasion as I watched courageous individuals stand tall before microphones that amplified trembling voices, as I watched brave individuals hold notes in hands that shook so hard I could feel them tremor across a crowded room, it struck me that many of those testifying didn't want to speak out.

Part of this was observation. But the greater part was the fact that they came right out and said it.

Among the voices were several from current and past students of the Howard County Public School System. Past-presidents of National Honor Societies, honors graduates, excellent students unable to apply to college because they have no social security number. Why? Their status: undocumented immigrants, brought here as children by their families.

"Uncertainty follows us around. We are students. We have no other home. To me, I am an American. I am a citizen of Maryland."—Student, Howard County, MD

"How will you protect me and others like me?"—Former Student, Howard County, MD

Despite the very real personal risk they took publicly identifying themselves, they did, because they felt that the message they needed to share was that critical.

And so for them, I add my voice to theirs. For them, and for everyone supported by CB9–2017.

I've spoken with friends and family in Howard County since CB9–2017 was released. I've heard arguments for and against the Sanctuary Bill. I've read it.

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...and people feeling attacked, endangered, and that's why they need to start at the beginning.

What does being a Sanctuary jurisdiction mean?

It differs from place to place. Each bill is written differently, which is why reading the language of Howard County's bill is so important.

sanc-tu-ar-y

noun: sanctuary; plural noun: sanctuaries

a place of refuge or safety.

"people automatically sought a sanctuary in time of trouble"

Synonyms: refuge, haven, shelter, harbor, oasis, retreat

Middle English: from Old French sanctuaire, from Latin sanctuarium, from sanctus 'holy.' The early sense 'a church or other sacred place where a fugitive was immune, by the law of the medieval church, from arrest'.

It's my belief that some (incorrectly) believe that this legislation makes Howard County a place where individuals are immune from the law as opposed to making it into a space of refuge for those community members feeling attacked or endangered.

If you read the language of the bill, you can see for yourself that it does not protect ANYONE who breaks the law. It does not create a haven for criminals. It does not prevent law enforcement from working together to identify those who break laws.

The bill clearly states in which cases people are required to provide their immigration status. So it is also not a blanket piece of legislation that supersedes local, state and federal law and requirements.

CB9-2017 prevents individuals seeking services from being forced to unnecessarily disclose their immigration status. It prevents those who do force individuals seeking services to unnecessarily disclose their immigration status from reporting them to law enforcement.

Imagine a young mother, abused by her boyfriend. Imagine her fear that reporting her boyfriend will endanger her ability to stay in the United States. Now imagine that her boyfriend begins to abuse their child. Does she report him to the police? Even if it means that she may get deported and will therefore be

unable to protect her daughter afterward? What kind of choice is that? If you read that hypothetical situation and think I'm being extreme, read this powerful piece by Tom Coale, who was asked to help address such a situation two years ago.

Imagine that you are in a traffic accident or that you are the victim of a crime and the only witness will not go on the record out of fear of deportation. Imagine that community members fear reporting crime —as a victim or as a witness—to the police out of the same fear. How does ignoring or normalizing this fear make our community safer? Answer: it doesn't.

One argument against CB9–2017 is that people with the status of undocumented immigrant do not pay taxes. I'll turn to the US Chamber of Commerce to address this concern:

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Undocumented immigrants pay sales taxes, just like every other consumer in the United States. Undocumented immigrants also pay property taxes—even if they rent housing. More than half of undocumented immigrants have federal and state income, Social Security, and Medicare taxes automatically deducted from their paychecks. However, undocumented immigrants working “on the books” are not eligible for any of the federal or state benefits that their tax dollars help to fund. As a result, undocumented immigrants provide an enormous subsidy to the Social Security system in particular. Each year, Social Security taxes are withheld from billions of dollars in wages earned by workers whose names and Social Security numbers do not match the records of the Social Security Administration (SSA). According to the SSA, undocumented immigrants paid \$13 billion in payroll taxes into the Social Security Trust Funds in 2010 alone. Tax payments by undocumented immigrants and their families are also sizable at the state and local levels. The Institute for Taxation and Economic Policy (ITEP) estimates that households headed by undocumented immigrants paid \$11.6 billion in state and local taxes in 2013. That included just under \$1.1 billion in personal income taxes, \$3.6 billion in property taxes, and more than \$6.9 billion in sales and excise taxes. (From Immigration Myths and Facts pdf by the US Chamber of Commerce, April 2016)

The document goes on to address another misconception by noting, “Undocumented immigrants are not eligible for federal public benefit programs, and even legal immigrants face stringent eligibility restrictions.”

To that end, some are concerned that passing this legislation will prevent Howard County from receiving certain types of federal funding. This is purely speculative. In fact, it is speculative whether or not such funding will even be available under the incoming administration. So before dismissing the legislation out of turn based on fear of the unknown, state your concern about this specific issue to your elected representative without dismissing the entire bill itself.

Another factor to keep in mind regarding the issue of immigration: the immigration process for our country is long, and it is arduous.

Many Americans want immigrants to enter the country legally.

But under current immigration laws, there are very few options for legal immigration, the costs are increasingly prohibitive and the wait for any kind of status can be long and frustrating.

According to the State Department, that imaginary "immigration line" is already 4.4 million people long and depending on the type of visa sought and the country of origin, the wait can be years to decades long. In some countries, such as the Philippines and Mexico people have been waiting over 20 years for approval of a family-sponsored visa.

Immigrants can legally get to the U.S by being sponsored by an employer or a family member, they can enter the country as refugees, or they could receive one of the selectively distributed professional or diversity visas. The Diversity Visa Program makes 55,000 green cards available to persons from countries with low rates of immigration to the U.S.

According to the State Department, the fees to obtain permanent U.S. visas can range from \$200 to over \$700, excluding legal fees. Plus, there are visa quotas which limits immigration from any given

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What our country really needs is systemic Immigration reform. In the meantime, we need to treat each other with civility and respect and we need to make decisions based on facts, not myths. We need to recognize that our neighbors are part of our community REGARDLESS of their immigration status. They want the same things we all want—safety, shelter, security for their family and for themselves.

Disappointing in the discussion swirling around CB9 is the seeming unwillingness of those speaking in opposition to pause for a moment to educate themselves. To these people I ask: What are your concerns? Have you researched them? Have you asked questions and confirmed fact from fiction? Have you considered addressing individual concerns without opposing the entirety of CB9–2017? I've seen posts on social media spreading disinformation, claiming that this legislation will prevent law enforcement from enforcing laws (this is false). And I've seen those posts shared.

Even more disappointing? I've seen comments directly attacking individuals (not their position, but them personally) for voicing their support of the measure. This is happening to public and private citizens.

And this is happening without comment by many I respect who stand in opposition. To those friends and neighbors I say this: the ends don't justify the means. You can oppose this measure without lowering your standards of civility, and you can oppose this measure while holding each other publicly accountable for treating every member of our community with respect and dignity.

If anything, these tactics only serve to make it abundantly clear how necessary legislation such as CB9 is to our community. If this is happening in public, imagine what is happening in private. If this is happening to our community leaders, imagine what is happening to those unable or unwilling to call public or institutional attention to such harassment.

Leaders from both major political parties convened public forums in response to troubling events occurring in our community. "Concerns of racism, intolerance prompt launch of #OneHoward initiative" read the post-election headline in the Baltimore Sun article announcing the first event. Our friends and neighbors came together to share their hopes and fears and concerns in the wake of documented intolerance.

Some of them spoke with trembling voices, pleading for our leaders to hear them and to reassure them that our community is not a place that will allow such behavior to continue.

How can we ask them to speak and then turns our backs on them? We can't, not in good conscience.

Which is precisely why I support CB9-2017 and I implore you to do the same. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Mickey Gomez
Community Advocate

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Bill 2017-9: More about the Supreme Court case

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Greg Guyang <guyang@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:25 AM

CouncilMail; Fox, Greg

CB9-2017

Dear Members of the County Council:

During the public hearing on Bill 2017-9 on January 17th, there was a lawyer testifying in support of the bill. In his statement, he mentioned US Supreme Court case Arizona v. United States in support of his statement that illegal immigration is not a crime. After the testimony, he was invited to join the working session on the bill.

While his statement is technically correct, I feel that it helps the Council if the whole picture of that case is presented. In this email, I will attempt to outline the part of the Supreme Court opinion that is relevant to Bill 2017-9.

Arizona v. United States, Supreme Court case 11-182, was about the infamous Arizona law that requires state police to check immigration states in their daily duties. More information about the case can be found at <https://www.law.cornell.edu/supremecourt/text/11-182>.

In the Court Opinion delivered by Justice Kennedy, the following points are interesting.

Part IV/C, Page 15: "As a general rule, it is not a crime for a removable alien to remain present in the United States". Therefore, they cannot be arrested for that reason, unless a Federal warrant is issued.

This affirms what the lawyer said. However, there is another part of the Opinion.

Part IV/D, page 20: concerning the part of the Arizona State law that requires state officers to determine the immigration status of any person they stop, detain, or arrest on some other legitimate basis, the Supreme Court holds that "consultation between federal and state officials is an important feature of the immigration system", and that "the federal scheme thus leaves room for a policy requiring state officials to contact ICE as a routine matter." (page 21). The Court did have concerns, on the other hand, on whether such verification process would prolong the detention period. Nonetheless, that part of the Arizona State law (Section 2(B)) is affirmed by the Supreme Court, with allowance for further challenges after the law goes into practice.

In other words, routine consultation and check of someone's immigration status with ICE is acceptable or even encouraged. Of course, the Court did not say such practice is required by the Federal Government.

It should be noted that Arizona v. United States was a case about whether a state can proactively enforce or help to enforce immigration law. The issue for Bill 2017-9 is whether a county can prohibit voluntary cooperation with the Federal Government in enforcing immigration law. These are two different questions. As pointed out by the Howard County police chief in his testimony, arresting people because of their illegal immigration status is not an issue that needs to be addressed in Howard County. However, since this case was invoked, I think it's helpful to understand the whole picture.

Another germane point: this Opinion established that the Federal Government has exclusive authority to determine immigration policy and the priority of enforcement. "Arizona may have understandable frustrations with the problems caused by illegal immigration while that process continues, but the State may not pursue policies that undermine federal law." (page 25)

Sincerely,

Feng Ouyang, Ph.D.

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C.B9



Dale Martin <coventrynorwich@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:31 AM

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Please be advised that I am against C.B9 Dale Martins. (301)943-3437

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Eileen Singleton <eileenmgs@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:37 AM

CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan 

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CB9-2017



Action Items



Dear Howard County Councilmembers,

I live in Ellicott City (District 1), and I am writing to voice my STRONG support for CB-9. The recent presidential election showed yet another example of how much words matter and how words from leaders set the tone for and result in actions by followers. I commend Councilmembers Ball and Terrasa for submitting this legislation, for showing our diverse county that words matter, and kindness matters, and every person matters.

County Executive Kittleman listed 3 reasons in his opposition to CB-9. Here are my thoughts on those reasons:

1. False sense of security - I think the legislation will make Howard County a more safe community because everyone, regardless of status, will feel like they can report crimes without being questioned about their status.
2. Compromise public safety efforts - Section 12.2101 of CB-9 explicitly states that law enforcement will continue to investigate crimes and work with state and federal law enforcement
3. Loss of Federal funds - this may in theory be possible but it seems unlikely based on past precedent of withholding federal funds

The comments from opponents of this legislation show why we need to pass this legislation. We have people from all over the world living in Howard County, and I imagine the vast majority are legally residing here; however, they may feel threatened and unwelcome due to the tone being set at the Federal level, which appears to be trickling down to the local level.

Please pass this legislation, it is needed now more than ever!

Thank you for considering these comments.

Eileen Singleton
3710 Takoya Drive
Ellicott City

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CB9-2017



R. D. Morrison <dallasm622@verizon.net>

Wed 1/18, 11:26 AM

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CB9-2017

Council Members;

The proposed Howard Co. legislative Bill No 9-2017 making Howard County a “sanctuary County” is ill advised. I understand the salient points that of this legislation, especially as it relates to President-elect Trump. However, I feel this bill ignores the fact that we are a country of laws, and among those are laws governing non-U.S. citizens coming to and remaining in the U.S. illegally. As a former state and federal law enforcement officer, I will tell you first hand that such laws governing sanctuary communities serve to circumvent laws that are in place to protect our society. Such laws serve to thwart communications between law enforcement agencies, thus in some instances, perpetuating criminal activities. You have heard the testimony of the Ho. Co. Police Chief; however, this is only one of the many law enforcement agencies that serves our county. This proposed law would serve to disrespect the laws of the United States and its people; the same people that you are sworn to protect as our representatives. This legislation serves to protect those who have committed crimes not only by entering the United States illegally, but there are those who commit illegal acts in our communities. Our county government agencies should not go on a witch hunt for illegal aliens; however, it should not turn a blind eye to criminal acts. If an illegal resident comes to the attention of the county’s law enforcement authorities, your legislation stands in the way of reporting this fact to the appropriate federal agency. In sum, I feel that this bill is a knee jerk reaction to our current political climate and will have a negative long range impact on the county and people that you serve.

Dallas Morrison

[8538 Autumn Harvest](#)
[Ellicott City, MD](#)

MY VOTE IS MY VOICE!

...

CB9-2017



no-reply@howardcountymd.gov

Wed 1/18, 11:27 AM

morrison@rdmfed.com

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CB9-2017

First Name: Dallas

Last Name: Morrison

Email: morrison@rdmfed.com

Street Address: 8538 Autumn Harvest

City: Ellicott City

Subject: CB9-2017

Message:

The proposed Howard Co. legislative Bill No 9-2017 making Howard County a "sanctuary County" is ill advised. I understand the salient points that of this legislation, especially as it relates to President-elect Trump. However, I feel this bill ignores the fact that we are a country of laws, and among those are laws governing non-U.S. citizens coming to and remaining in the U.S. As a former state and federal law enforcement officer, I will tell you first hand that such laws governing sanctuary communities serve to circumvent laws that are in place to protect our society. Such laws serve to thwart communications between law enforcement agencies, thus in some instances, perpetuating criminal activities. You have heard the testimony of the Ho. Co. Police Chief; however, this is only one of the many law enforcement agencies that impact our county. This proposed law would serve to disrespect the laws of the United States and its people; the same people that you are sworn to protect as our representatives. This legislation merely protects those who have committed crimes not only by entering the United States illegally, but there are those who commit illegal acts in our communities. Our county government agencies should not go on a witch hunt for illegal aliens; however, it should not turn a blind eye to criminal acts. If an illegal resident comes to the attention of the county's law enforcement authorities, your legislation stands in the way of reporting this fact to the appropriate federal agency. In sum, I feel that this bill is a knee jerk reaction to our current political climate and will have a negative long range impact on the county and people that you serve.

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RE: Sanctuary Bill



Linda Freeman <lffreeman@corridormtg.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:29 AM

Sara Lenas <slenes@corridormtg.com>; Weinstein, Jon; CouncilMail; +4 more

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CB9-2017

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Linda Freeman | NMLS ID 195277

Loan Originator

Corridor Mortgage Group, Inc.

[11085 Stratfield Court | Marriottsville, MD 21104](#)

tel: 443.574.0406 **fax:** 443.574.0407

lffreeman@corridormtg.com | [my vCard](#) | [about me](#)

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nda-Freeman]

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Linda Freeman

From: Sara Lenas

Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 11:28 AM

To: 'jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov'; 'councilmail@howardcountymd.gov'

Cc: Chuck Maggio; Jamie Lenas; 'Jody Lenas'; Patrick Toronto; Linda Freeman

Subject: Sanctuary Bill

Having been a 40 year Howard County resident and very open, caring and liberal in my views, I need to tell you ENOUGH with diversity and inclusiveness!! I am totally against the sanctuary bill, Korean Way and everybody's holidays being taken off by the schools!!!! This is America and America is English-speaking and mainly a Christian country. I am not even Christian and I accept this. I am all for figuring out how to get citizenship for the illegal aliens who go through a systematic process, and do not want to send anyone home or split up families. But, I do not want to open our doors to encourage our County to become a haven for everyone from everywhere. When a Caucasian, female elementary schooler is the ONLY white girl in her elementary school class in Columbia or another one has only 3 Caucasian females in her Ellicott City kindergarten, we have gone too far.

If you live in America, you should learn to speak English, your retail signs should at least have English first and you should know that most of America celebrates Christmas! People are more than welcome to celebrate or speak whatever holiday or language they want, but this is America and our Caucasian, English-speaking children should not suffer or be the minority in Howard County!

Sara Lenex | NMLS ID 142787

Branch Manager



Corridor Mortgage Group, Inc.

[11085 Stratfield Court | Marriottsville, MD 21104](#)

tel: 443.574.9540 **cell:** 410.440.8458 **fax:** 443.574.9541

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CB-9



Kristin Lilly <kristin.lilly@icloud.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:32 AM

CouncilMail 

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CB9-2017

Dear Council Members,

My name is Kristin Lilly. I live in Ellicott City and work in Columbia. I grew up in Columbia and am a proud alumna of Oakland Mills High School. I was at the hearing last night to show my support for CB-9 but I did not testify. I wanted to address something that came up several times last night and share my thoughts. Opponents of CB-9 often stated that undocumented immigrants were "jumping in line" in front of documented immigrants and somehow taking something away from them. This is an inaccurate and unfair analogy. If someone does not have US citizen relatives here already or does not have a specialized skill to get a work visa, there may not be a legal way to come. If they are unable to feed their children or keep them safe from gangs or other violence in their country, they do what they need to do to survive. For undocumented immigrants to take such a perilous journey to the US, they are doing so out of desperation. Many women are sexually assaulted during the journey and many other people don't survive the journey at all. Once they get here, they live in fear. Many undocumented immigrants are exploited for labor and not paid for their services. After one or two pay periods go by and they realize they won't be getting a pay check, they stop working. However, employers that do this know that the laborers are too scared to go to the authorities or complain about this. Undocumented immigrants are many times afraid to go to the hospital or to the police. They can't go back to their countries to visit family members that are sick and dying so they are unable to say goodbye to loved ones before they pass. Documented immigrants are able to work without fear. After having their permanent residence for five years, they can apply for public benefits. If they are not paid for their labor or victimized in any other way, they know that they can go to authorities. They can freely travel outside the country. To say that undocumented clients are "jumping in front of people in line" is a false analogy. If we are talking about lines, then at least consider that there are two separate lines: one where people feel safe and have the benefits of having papers and one where people are scared and vulnerable. Undocumented immigrants are not taking anything from documented immigrants. If anyone thinks that undocumented immigrants are somehow getting more or cutting in front of documents immigrants in the line, please ask documented immigrants if they would ever switch places with an undocumented immigrant. They would not because they realize that they have more rights and benefits. For me, CB-9 is about compassion. It is not interfering with ICE or federal laws in any way. CB-9 is just realizing that immigration law is complex and so are people's individual stories. I think the more people get to know undocumented immigrants, the more they empathize with their struggle. I ask that you please pass CB-9. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristin Lilly

Sent from my iPhone

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Testimony for CB9-2017



Melissa Gruner <melissa_gruner@yahoo.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:34 AM

CouncilMail 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Melissa Gruner

[16361 Paulownia Hill Court](#)

[Mount Airy, MD 21771](#) (yes this is Howard County portion of Mt. Airy)

I am a CPA that has resided in Maryland my entire life and Howard County for 16 years. I pay my taxes and obey the laws. I am asking members of the county council to vote no to CB9-2017. First, illegal behavior should not be rewarded. Also, by encouraging illegal immigrants to migrate to Howard County with no enforcement, puts residents at risk of having more crimes committed against them by those here illegally.

Illegal immigrants have no right to work in the United States of America. They obtain jobs with employers committing crimes by paying them "under the table" or illegal immigrants obtain another person's information and use this information illegally, i.e. identity theft. I have prepared numerous tax returns which after e-filing are rejected by the IRS because a tax return had already been filed in the taxpayer's social security number. Illegal immigrants file these fraudulent tax returns to receive any withholding back plus the earned income tax credit and child tax credit. A 2011 audit by the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration confirmed that individuals who are not authorized to work in the United States were paid \$4.2 billion in refundable credits. The IRS discovered 1.1 million US citizens were victims of identity theft by the hands of illegal immigrants from the years 2011 – 2015. A sanctuary city only encourages this type of behavior and victimizes its citizens. Please help protect Howard County citizens and vote NO.

Sanctuary Bill



Linda Freeman <lfreeman@corridormtg.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:41 AM

Weinstein, Jon; CouncilMail; Chuck Maggio <cmaggio@corridormtg.com>; +2 more

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Action Items



I am writing to you to voice my VEHEMENT opposition to this bill. I have been a resident of this county for 45 years and am a retired Howard County Police Officer. I am a businesswoman in this county now. I have no problem with diversity but there comes a time when we have to reevaluate. I do not think that certain groups get special treatment. My father was a German immigrant, came over here at the age of 11, and did it the legal way!! WHY did he have to follow the laws but Hispanics or others don't??? This is a slippery slope. If we forgive violations of the immigration law, why should we obey the other laws??? We can't in this country help everyone everywhere! I don't mind helping the less fortunate but there comes a time when we have to limit how many we help. In addition, a lot of groups are not assimilating to our culture. WHY do I have to press ONE for English when I live in the USA and we speak English. I drive down Rte 40 and all I see are Korean signs..since when do we do this? This does NOT encourage inclusiveness!! I am tired of feeling like a stranger in my own county..ENOUGH IS ENOUGH! I am a voter, and a well connected one, and I am asking you to protect this county by voting against this bill. Thank you

Linda Freeman | NMLS ID 195277

Loan Originator

Corridor Mortgage Group, Inc.

[11085 Stratfield Court | Marriottsville, MD 21104](#)

tel: 443.574.0406 fax: 443.574.0407

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Linda Freeman

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Testimony in support of CB-9



William R. Gray Roncal <willgray@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:42 AM

CouncilMail; k.roncal@gmail.com <kroncal@gmail.com> 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Good morning,

We attended the session last night but had to leave prior to being called to give testimony. Please find our statement below, in support of passing CB-9.

Many thanks,
Will and Karla Gray Roncal
Howard County residents

In support of undocumented immigrants and CB9

William and Karla Gray Roncal

Hello, my name is William Gray Roncal and this is my wife Karla Gray Roncal. We have lived in Howard County as technical professionals for 11 years, and have many family members who are immigrants (including Karla and her family). We have never spoken at one of these hearings, but felt moved to do so in support of CB-9 and the undocumented immigrants in our community. One of the traits that attracted us to Maryland, and to Howard County specifically was its spirit of community and inclusion, and we felt compelled to come here tonight to testify in favor of this bill toward ensuring that Howard County remains a vibrant place to live and one that reflects our values.

We're angry about the hateful rhetoric we've all heard over the past year. And let me be clear - this is not a political issue - this is a human rights issue. Regardless of your politics, it is evident that this past year has seen a swell in hate speech and violence targeting those in our community who are the most vulnerable and have the least ability to fight back. We believe that undocumented immigrants are a net positive to our community, and many of the concerns we hear are simply not supported by facts. We've also heard apathy - from people who say they "just don't have time to worry about this." It's time to stand up.

Humans cannot be illegal. And the people we are debating whether or not to protect are already members of our community - co-workers, classmates, your kid's best friend at the playground, the person who serves you coffee every morning, the nice lady you sit next to at church, or the family you greet as you walk through our parks. Our personal experience is that these undocumented immigrants are here because they passionately believe in a better life and sacrifice to pursue better jobs and education for themselves and their children. They are a major strength in our community. They love America so much that they are willing to risk everything to be here. And we meet that love with hate. It's time to stand up.

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are universal. Although in an ideal society, immigration would happen only through legal channels, the current immigration system is impenetrable for many of the most vulnerable families, and they may lack the education, country of origin or funding that others use to easily navigate our borders. Regardless of your opinion on the matter, these folks are here and are already members of our community, and need our help and protection. We volunteer to help many of these young students prepare to attend and graduate college, and for most, the decision to be here wasn't their choice, but an opportunity that they nonetheless willingly embrace with love for their adopted country, despite the extra obstacles and challenges. They struggle with discrimination, lack of access to resources, little to no financial aid, and language barriers.

"Choose Civility," is a statement that we see on bumper stickers and hear people recite throughout the county. According to the Initiative, it intends to enhance respect, empathy, consideration and tolerance in Howard County and with all those that we reach. We think those are beautiful words, but words that need to be backed up with action.

In the shadow of Martin Luther King Day, we want to leave you with something he challenged us with: "Life's most persistent and urgent question is, What are you doing for others?" We who live in Howard County are blessed with the resources, knowledge, and ability to help. Thank you very much for your time and we urge you to vote in favor of CB-9.
It's time to stand up.

Reply all | Delete Junk | ...



CB-9 NO



Bob Sebastian <bob.sebastian@ebaengineering.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:43 AM

CouncilMail; Bob Sebastian <bob.sebastian@ebaengineering.com>



Reply all |

CB9-2017

As a Howard County resident I want you to oppose CB-9.

"No CB-9" and "diversity yes, illegal no"

We must be a nation of laws!

Thank you,

Bob

Robert G. Sebastian, PE | Chairman

EBA Engineering, Inc.

d. 410.504.6061 | c. 443.858.6814 | bob.sebastian@ebaengineering.com

[6100 Chevy Chase Drive, Suite 200 | Laurel, MD 20707-2917](http://6100ChevyChaseDriveSuite200LaurelMD20707-2917) | www.ebaengineering.com



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My Testimony on CB9-2017



David Fratangelo <dfratangelo@yahoo.com>

Wed 1/18, 11:58 AM



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CB9-2017



Action Items



January 18, 2017

Please accept this testimony to be entered in the record regarding CB9-2017 entered by Council Ball and Councilwoman Terrasa.

For the record my name is David Fratangelo I reside and own my property at 13778 Old Rover Road in [West Friendship, MD. 21794](#) and have lived in the county since 1998.

I am opposed to this bill.

The reverend Martin Luther King Jr. wrote,

"I have a dream that my four children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

Merriam Webster defines CHARACTER as.

"one of the attributes (see **attribute** 1) or features that make up and distinguish an individual <This is a side of her *character* that few people have seen.>"

This bill is one that ignores character. If the first act that one makes to obtain a right or privilege is an ILLEGAL act what does that say about the character of that individual? That is what we need to judge an individual on not on the color of skin. Why would we welcome them to this county?

The council takes an oath to uphold and support the constitution of the United States and the laws of the state of Maryland. This bill says that our sworn officers of the law should turn a blind eye to the laws of the state of Maryland. It may be unconstitutional. In the end this is a bill that changes nothing except making a unnecessary political statement.

This bill is wrong on many levels, shall it pass be vetoed and then overridden I will be one that signs a petition to bring it to referendum The referendum will be one that works against those

who supported the bill and will impeach those up for reelection or running against a very popular and great man, Allan Kittlemen. I will take great pleasure in seeing your defeat.

Sincerely,

David Fratangelo

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Vote NO on CB9-2017



Tim Gruner <timothygruner@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 12:25 PM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

I have lived in Howard County for about 27 years. I wish the council to vote no on CB9-2017. The United States is based on the rule of law, no one is above or below the law and all must follow it. I wish to point out, that I work with and have as friends, many first-generation immigrants. The group is very diverse: there are two brothers from Russia, a friend from India, Pakistan, Poland, Philippines, Israel and a couple from China. Their religions include: Jewish, Hindu and Muslim. They all came to this country legally! They followed the law and did the correct thing. This law only keeps these illegal immigrants in the shadows. If we want to do something, then we should help them get green cards or visas. Please vote NO.

Paul G. Skalny, Esq.
4312 Buckskin Wood Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

Good evening Mr. Chairman and Members of the Council!

My parents and I were born in Czechoslovakia. In early 1968, after completing his Ph.D. in Poland, my father was afforded the opportunity to come to the United States and do some post-doctoral research. Later that summer, my mother and I came to visit my father and, shortly after our arrival, the Russians invaded Czechoslovakia. This invasion left my parents in a difficult situation: return to their native country and subject the family to what turned into 20+ years of communist rule; or leave family and friends behind, and seek political asylum in America. My parents opted for the latter and settled down in Howard County in 1972.

With that background information, there are two stories I would like to share with you.

First, shortly after taking a position with Martin Marietta in 1972, my father applied for and obtained a security clearance. For years to follow, my father was paid visits by agents from the FBI and other governmental agencies. These visits, which sometimes occurred multiple times a year, were geared around what contact my father maintained with family, friends and colleagues back in Czechoslovakia; what information was being shared and transmitted; and what contact, if any, he maintained with members of the communist party. My father was always forthright and cooperative. After years of these visits, one of the agents asked my father why he seemed so unphased by the visits and why he never seemed annoyed or aggravated by the barrage of questions.

Candidly, he was somewhat baffled by the question. After all, he saw his opportunities in America as a privilege and an honor; and he viewed what the FBI agents were doing as a means to protect his family and America from the likes of Hitler, Stalin and the Russians, forces with which he and his family had to contend since his birth.

The second story has to do with my family being the victims of what today would probably be considered a hate crime. Upon coming home from work one day shortly after our house in the Mt. Hebron development was completed, my father was greeted with the phrase "Go Home Commies" spray-painted on the street across the entire width of our property. Needless to say, my parents were saddened and hurt, particularly given the fact that they had no affiliation with the Communist Party at all; in fact, they stayed in the United States as a means to escape communist rule entirely.

From the two suit cases and the \$100 my family had in its name when it came to America, my family has made a nice living and is thankful for both the opportunities it afforded to us and the great friends we have made. But our success and our friendships did not come about as a result of government programs, sanctuary communities or laws which are little more than political rhetoric. It came about as a result of an appreciation for the opportunities provided by this country; by understanding that certain personal liberties needed to be sacrificed for the greater good; by working hard and looking for ways to contribute to, rather than take from, those before us that

helped build America; by speaking English, not Slovak, in our home; and, by making American friends and seeking ways to acclimate to their ways, rather than imposing our ways on them.

Dr. Ball, Ms. Terrassa, and other members of the County Council, CB 9 is not the solution. And while my family is but one story, it's a story I know well and one that I hope you will give serious consideration.

Reply all | Delete Junk | ...



Support of Bill CB 9 – 2017



John West <jwest@stjohnbaptistchurch.org>

Wed 1/18, 1:30 PM

CouncilMail



Reply all |

CB9-2017

I want to share that I support Sanctuary Bill CB 2017. As a long time Howard County resident, I want others to embrace this great county as I do for what it is, the rich diversity of its citizens. What will continue to make it greater is in how we care for and about, all residents of the county.



Rev. John R. West III

Facilities Manager

St John Baptist Church

9055 Tamar Drive

Columbia, MD 21045

Phone: 410-992-6977 ext. 1015

sjbc_bldgmgr@stjohnbaptistchurch.org

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YES ON CB9



Amy Adler <amyadler419@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 2:17 PM

CouncilMail 

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CB9-2017

Please pass CB9!

Howard County is a place that people come in the interest of diversity and having a sanctuary law would only strengthen that. Our nation's laws on immigration are not comprehensive and there's not an easy path to citizenship. Allowing those who are undocumented to live in our county without fear of our police and school system officials.

So please, consider passing CB9.

Thanks,

Amy

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



Illegals in the county.



David <5.56blaster@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 2:32 PM

CouncilMail 



Reply all | 

CB9-2017



Action Items



What is wrong with Howard county? How have you become such a joke? If you want to destroy the county and lower the property values just keep it up. I cant wait to see what happens when the Home Depots in the county look like the ones in Montgomery county. How about the crime your inviting? Why do you think people from Montgomery county are going elsewhere? They invited criminals in and then left! Shame on all of you!

Sent from my Kindle Fire

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Against CB9-2017



Weiwei <jjaww@hotmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 4:09 PM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

Testimony of Weiwei Jia on Howard County Sanctuary Bill (CB9-2017)

I am AGAINST this bill.

I am a resident that lives on Walker Drive. I have heard that one of the councilmen has proposed a Sanctuary Bill for Howard County. I noticed that this kind of "Sanctuary" label usually attracts illegal immigrants to come and reside in these counties or cities. Along with that, crime rates usually increase. Examples include our neighboring counties or cities such as Montgomery County, Prince George's County, Baltimore City and Washington DC. There has been data and news regarding the increased crime rates due to illegal immigrants in these places as certain gang group tends to recruit young illegal immigrants: <http://dailycaller.com/2016/06/24/dc-officials-blame-illegal-immigration-for-crime-spike/>

I have chosen to live in Howard County, because It is a safe places for me and my family. Howard County has low crime rate and great schools. I certainly do not want to see Howard County going downhill like that.

I am an immigrant myself, but I studied and worked very hard to come to the US, which is very similar to most other legal immigrants. The legal process is not easy, but it's the right way. The government should encourage people to come in through legal means, not by offering protection to those who have come here illegally, especially the criminals.

Adding the "Sanctuary" label to our county doesn't help anybody. It will bind the hands of our police officer that had worked hard to keep crime rate low. It will attract more criminals. When the federal funding is cut off, the county will either have to raise taxes and increase financial burden to the tax payers or have to cut off certain services to the law-abiding citizens.

So I hope that you will vote "NO" to this Sanctuary Bill for Howard County (CB9-2017).

Thank you!

Weiwei Jia

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Sanctuary

 **R**  **rslats@aol.com**
Wed 1/18, 4:23 PM
CouncilMail 

  Reply all | 

CB9-2017

I am OPPOSED to the idea of having Howard County as a “sanctuary”. Local and state authorities ought to be able and willing to cooperate with Federal officials in the apprehension and removal of illegal aliens especially those who have committed crimes against our citizenry.

Robert E. Slattery
Wood Elves Way
Columbia

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

Reply all | Delete Junk | ...



Vote NO FOR Sanctuary County



Brenda <country.sunshyn@yahoo.com>

Wed 1/18, 4:59 PM

CouncilMail



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CB9-2017

<p>Guidelines for Public He... 31 KB</p>
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1 attachments (31 KB) Download

As a HoCo resident since 1986, I am definitely opposed to making Howard County a sanctuary county. Please keep it as it is - a law abiding County where we ALL can feel safe and feel pride for our neighborhoods. We need more citizens who do the right thing and respect laws and citizens, not unlawful ones that will increase violence and increase the state of disrespect. Please vote NO. Thank you.

Sent from my iPhone

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Re: Oppose CB9-2017



Kathy Kirn <kkirn1@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 5:24 PM

Weinstein, Jon; CouncilMail 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Sorry see below - forgot to put my full name and address.

Katherine M. Kirn
[12631 Golden Oak Drive](#)
[Ellicott City MD 21042](#)
410-693-5476

On Wed, Jan 18, 2017 at 4:33 PM, Kathy Kirn <kkirn1@gmail.com> wrote:

Dear Mr Weinstein, You did a great job last night of moderating the hearing. I hope you took away from this hearing that CB9 is very divisive and detrimental to the future peace and financial stability of Howard County. Many lifelong Democrats like myself are opposed to this bill. It would be a grave miscalculation on your part to think that just because a person voted for Hillary they support this bill. Many do not.

It is very clear that the sanctuary status has hurt neighboring Montgomery County. Regardless of how proponents want to spin it, their crime rates have risen and their property values have gone down. Facts are facts.

Your district falls solidly within the Korean district. 95% of Korean legal immigrants are also opposed to this bill as you heard last night from one of the leaders of the Korean community. You must vote against this bill in any form to support the constituents of your district. We are well organized and your re-election will depend upon it. I can assure you that much.

Thank you,
Kathy Kirn

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



Urging Support for Sanctuary Bill



Ruth W <ruth.folkfan@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 3:58 PM

CouncilMail 

  Reply all | 

CB9-2017

I would like to know I am proud of my Councilperson Calvin Ball for introducing the Sanctuary bill and I totally support it.

My name is Ruth Keeting-White and I live at [8945 Footed Ridge, Columbia Md.](#)

My congregation is part of PATH and I am in many other progressive organizations also.

It is heartening to think our local government values the diversity in our community and respects all who live, work and attend school here.

I found this poem which I think expresses thoughts I think will be a guide for the coming years. "What to Tell the Children". <http://hevia.com/rachel/what-to-tell-the-children/>

I think those who vote for this sanctuary legislation can be proud of what they did, and in future years the next generation will thank them.

As I understand it, the legislation is rather modest and only provides that the county focus on enforcing county laws. I am not concerned about it attracting more people to this area, our school system alone is an draw. I believe we can with courage provide leadership showing what we stand for.

I strongly urge the Howard County Council to vote in favor of Bill #9-2017.

Ruth Keeting-White

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



Please Support CB9



Cheryl Hahn <cherylbhahn@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 5:29 PM

CouncilMail 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017



Action Items



I am writing to express my support of CB9. Howard County is a diverse community with a reputation of supporting humanity and embracing differences. I see "choose civility" bumper stickers on cars throughout Howard County. If choosing civility is Howard County's mantra, how could we possibly oppose CB9? Please support this piece of legislation.

Thank you for your time.

--

Cheryl Hahn

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



Council Bill 9-2017

RT 

Richard Tufts <tuftsdaissy@verizon.net>

Wed 1/18, 5:57 PM

CouncilMail 

  Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Councilmembers,

Thank you for this opportunity to provide written testimony to Council Bill 9-2017.

The purpose of this email is to register my opposition to Council Bill 9-2017, to make Howard County a Sanctuary County.

I support current legislation, policies, and practices regarding immigration, diversity and anti-hate currently in force and enjoyed in our county, which are known to many non-residents here and abroad. Moreover, I agree with most if not all of what has been said and recorded on this bill.

I feel, however, this bill will promote more divisiveness than the urgent need to bring us together in today's times. Bills, policies, statements, etc., such as those contained in Council Bill 9-2017, I believe, do more to further divide and agitate our population than bring it together. And it goes without saying, we need to be brought together and reunited.

In summary, I reiterate my opposition to not only Council Bill 9-2017, but such the thinking behind policies being proposed and strongly suggest such efforts be redirected to more positively working to rectify and rebuild rather than working to negatively impact and divide our citizens and our country.

Therefore, I strongly suggest and ask you, our country representatives, NOT to approve Council Bill 9-2017. You will be doing our county and our country a major and much needed service when you do.

Thank you very much.

Respectively,
Richard G. Tufts
Daisy

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Council Bill 9-2017



Annilin Fort <annilinfort@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 5:59 PM

CouncilMail 



Reply all | 

CB9-2017



Action Items



Dear County Council Members,

First, please note I am a resident of Ms. Terrasa's district, and have been for 39 years.

I urge you to pass Council bill 9-2017, because it is the right thing to do. I value the diversity of my county, and believe in caring for all of my neighbors. How can we allow fear to guide our important decisions? This bill does abide by both state or federal laws, thus there is no conflict on either level.

It is just simply the right thing to do.

Thank you,

Annilin Fort

Mr. Chairman, Council members, and distinguished guests, my name is Matt Mancuso. I am a Veteran, the son of Italian immigrants and a resident of Howard County in Sykesville, Maryland.

I am against this bill and I would like to tell you why:

In the preamble to the Constitution which formed our Union, we hear about certain key things the founders wanted to ensure like **establishing Justice, promoting Welfare, and securing Liberty...**

Let's take a closer look at those points, shall we? (Please note, I am using definitions from Webster's dictionary)

First, what is Justice – Justice is the process or result of using **laws** to fairly judge and punish **crimes and criminals.**

For the record, illegal entry into the United States is a crime! A misdemeanor first, and upon return after deportation a felony, with the potential for additional Civil or Immigration consequences.

The bill you are proposing seeks to refrain from asking, ignore or not pursue those who have committed the crime of being in this Country and County illegally.

Let's look at Welfare – the health, happiness, and fortunes of a person or group of people.

No issues there, who could be against promoting welfare? But what I am against is granting special benefits to those who should not be in the group or worse, adversely impacting those of us who are!

How about Liberty then? Liberty, is the right of people to do or say things **that are not illegal** without being stopped or interrupted...

I would like to call this Councils attention to a few of the words in the preamble to the Constitution like **Laws, Crime, Criminals, and Illegal!**

It is troubling to me that as a Council you have found a way to distance yourselves from those words but instead have proposed a new set to disguise and distance yourselves from the core issue here. Words like discrimination, confidentiality, human rights, xenophobia, islamophobia, or racism.

And if we further define those words, we get a whole new set like unjust, prejudicial, fears, dislike, and even hatred.

In this case, and in most every case where words like these are used, they are a smokescreen; thrown up to intimidate thinking men and women from determining the true purpose of your bill, that being to **subvert the rule of law!**

You see, sanctuary policies circumvent and disrespect the rule of law. When you tell our police to refrain - to look the other way at illegal immigration, what message are you sending?

Your policies will endanger our police and promote crime thus jeopardizing the safety of the very citizens you were elected to protect.

They impose additional costs on the rightful residents of Howard County, the lawful citizens and legal immigrants, that they shouldn't have to bear.

Your policies will encourage and could even facilitate illegal immigration and are patently unfair to those who followed the rules to be here in the first place!

The citizens and legal immigrants of Howard County deserve better and I urge this Council not to pass CB 9.

Thank you.

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



CB-9 2017 testimony



Matthew Mancuso <manc60@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 6:21 PM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

CB-9 Testamony v2.docx 

19 KB

 1 attachments (19 KB) [Download](#)



Action Items



Dear Mr. Chairman and fellow Council members, I wanted to forward my testimony electronically for your review.

I am against CB9 because I believe that it disregards the rule of law and if passed will:

Increase crime,

Increase the consumption and cost of providing County services,

Decrease the welfare of legal County citizens, and most importantly

Put out the welcome mat for those who would choose enter the County and our County illegally.

I urge you to reject CB9.

Thank you,

Matt Mancuso

Sanctuary Issue



Chuck Maggio <cmaggio@corridormtg.com>

Wed 1/18, 6:28 PM

CouncilMail; Weinstein, Jon

Reply all

CB9-2017

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I feel as a lifelong resident (since I am 55 yrs. of age), that Howard County has welcomed Immigrants with open arms to our County and Schools. I have two children who attend Howard County Public Schools and we have never practiced any form of discrimination in our household. My children basically do not see race or color like the older generations.

I have major concerns based on the following:

1. Increase in Taxes- Extra tax burdens on County residents based on the infrastructure(roads, housing, etc.) not being able to handle a possible large Influx of illegals
2. Major over-crowding of schools, which we already face on a daily basis
3. The need for more Teachers, Aides, and Interpreters in our school system
4. The need for added curriculums in the school system to maintain teaching our children to the highest level while trying to mainstream children with major language barriers which holds back the entire class of children. (My daughter lives with this daily in the 1st grade of a Howard County public school).
5. Major Safety Issues associated with allowing Illegals to reside in Howard County-possible increase in crimes-gang formation putting a major burden on our Law Enforcement. This will facilitate the need for a larger police force-once again causing the taxpayers.
Loss of Federal Funding as a result of the Sanctuary Classification-Please Obey the Federal Law
6. More Welfare, subsidies, food stamps, etc.

Lastly, I feel that this unrest that is being felt by the Immigrants of Howard County as a result of Donald Trump winning the Presidential Election is unfounded in Howard County. Our Law Enforcement does not practice discrimination against any race of people. We live in a safe, well protected County, that is a wonderful place to live and raise a family. The desirability of this County will greatly deteriorate when designated as a "Sanctuary" County.

You , as the Counsel, also need to understand the "Fear" that will be felt by current residents if you allow illegal, unvetted immigrants into this great County.

Thank you for your consideration.

Chuck Maggio | NMLS ID 225710

Senior Loan Originator

Corridor Mortgage Group, Inc.

11085 Stratfield Court | Marriottsville, MD 21104

tel: 443.574.9486 cell: 410.207.7177 fax: 443.574.9487

cmaggio@corridormtg.com | [my vCard](#) | [about me](#)

[www.corridormtg.com/people/Chuck-Maggio]

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In favor of Sanctuary County Status



Diana Moore <dvmooore75@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 6:33 PM

CouncilMail 



Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Good evening, esteemed council members,

I am writing to express my support for CB 9-2017. I feel very strongly that as a community, Howard County should not be motivated by hate and fear.

Thank you,
Diana

--

Diana Moore

[7152 Winter Rose Path](#)
Columbia, MD 21045

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Sanctuary Bill



O'Malley-Young Zachary Vincent <zvo1@hood.edu>

Wed 1/18, 6:51 PM

CouncilMail 



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CB9-2017

To the members of the Howard County Council,

My name is Zach O'Malley-Young. I am 19 years of age, currently attending Hood College in Frederick Maryland. I have been a resident of Howard County for the entirety of my life. My family still lives in the same house my parents purchased off of Grove Road(Ellicott City) in 1994. As a member of my church council, and a locally made Eagle Scout(Troop 874 out of Glen Mar United Methodist Church), I myself am the direct product of this loving and supportive community.

When I received word that Howard County was considering grounding itself as a sanctuary community, I was overjoyed. Families should be able to live in peace wherever they choose to make themselves a home. For us to reject such vulnerable peoples as refugees, the displaced, or other undocumented peoples is directly in line with the hateful force that has crept into our country like a disease. It is absolutely shameful. We lie to ourselves when we call our community a place to nurture and grow, yet remove those we deem as unfit. I spent 12 years in a school system which set to constantly push compassion, kindness, empathy, and love into its students. Lessons in loyalty, kinship, hard work, bravery, generosity, and humility. I know that these lessons were the greatest form of education I received in my schooling. Some of the top tier schooling in the world. I'm incredibly proud to be from such an accepting place.

As elected members of the County Council, I and all of my brothers and sisters of Howard County expect that you will do the right thing in carrying out our communal mission of love and protecting the vulnerable. The foundations of peace and righteousness have been damaged by the recent movements of evil in our nation. As a child, I swore on my life that I would do my duty to God and my country. This evil cannot be ignored, and God requires me to put my body and soul into its decimation. Do not stand on the wrong side of history. The youth are watching, as we slowly sprout.

One day, we will be the new heirs to this great nation, and all who have commit injustices against us WILL be held accountable.

Thank you for your service to our community.

Zachary O'Malley-Young

Vice President of Young Americans for Liberty, Hood College Chapter

Hood College Class of 2020

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Sanctuary



Alyse <abshoelady@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 6:59 PM

Weinstein, Jon; CouncilMail 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Dear Mr. Weinstein,

Please be aware that I oppose Howard County as a Sanctuary. I believe people must go thru the proper channels to come here and stay here and should only receive benefits and privileges after they have been properly vetted or scrutinized that they are here for legitimate reasons and to do no harm.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,
Alyse Borakove

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



Re: Sanctuary County



Alan and Trisha Brickel <tamsab@hotmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 7:22 PM

Kittleman, Allan; CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin B; Terrasa, Jen



Reply all | 

CB9-2017

> On Jan 17, 2017, at 7:46 PM, Trish Brickel <tamsab@hotmail.com> wrote:

>

> Dear County Executive and Council Representatives,

> I Am Totally and Completely AGAINST Howard County becoming a

> Sanctuary County. This idea is WRONG for so many basic

> reasons.

>

> Please vote AGAINST this PROPOSAL.

>

> Respectfully,

> Alan & Trish Brickel

>

> [10042 Tanya Court](#)

> [Ellicott City, MD 21042](#)

> 410 461-452

 Reply all |  Delete Junk | 



CB9 Testimony



Mai-Han Trinh <maihan1@umbc.edu>

Wed 1/18, 7:22 PM

CouncilMail 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Hello Howard County Council Members,

I signed up to testify for CB9 but was not able to come back tonight. Below is my testimony:

"My name is Mai-Han Trinh. I am currently a junior at UMBC, and I am here in support of CB9. We have heard various perspectives here tonight, and I understand that some of my fellow residents are against the passing of this bill, but I think it is a testament to how valuable this bill has the potential to be on the lives our community members that we see so many young adults and students showing up and speaking out. Personally, I have lived in Howard County, district 4, my entire life, and every day in high school I had the privilege of learning in classrooms where the walls read, "Wilde Lake: Where diversity excels." Growing up, Howard County has instilled into me these values of diversity, inclusion, and empathy. At the Esperanza Center and with the Refugee Youth Project, where I volunteered, I have seen bright and hopeful immigrant students with such potential to learn, grow, and contribute to their community -- But students need safety to learn. No one, regardless of citizenship status, should have to live in fear. This is an opportunity for us to stand together and ease this fear, providing a better sense of security for some of the most vulnerable among us. I hope you will join me in fighting discrimination, believing in the inherent worth of all people, and choosing civility. Thank you."

Thank you,
Mai-Han Trinh

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Concerned

RM 

Ryan Murray <ryanmurray1990@icloud.com>

Wed 1/18, 7:31 PM

CouncilMail 



Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Hey I have a concern. Once you pass this bill people are leaving. And you won't have federal funding.

Sent from my iPhone

CB9 Testimony



Bill Woodcock <billwoodcock17@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 8:12 PM

CouncilMail

Reply all |

CB9-2017

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My apologies for not being able to attend tonight due to a work commitment I have to meet Thursday morning. Below please find my testimony on CB9-2017.

Kind Regards,

Bill Woodcock

Dear Members of the County Council,

My name is Bill Woodcock and I live at [6127 Orient Lane, Columbia, MD 21045](#). I am writing in support of CB9-2017, authored by Councilmembers Calvin Ball and Jen Terrasa.

This legislation has raised a lot of debate and stirred a lot of passions within Howard County's borders, and rightfully so. In attending the "One Howard" and "Speak Up, Stand Up, Howard" events in December, at which members of various ethnic and religious communities described the prejudice and hatred that they experience in Howard County on a regular basis, I was concerned that the message was not getting through, across the entire Howard County community. The audiences at those forums was overwhelmingly comprised of members of those groups who have directly felt the abuse. This bill, which I see as a direct result of the "Speak Up, Stand Up" forum, which was sharp in tone and demanded actions, has brought the discussion of diversity and tolerance issues into the homes of every Howard County resident. It was a courageous, challenging move for Councilmembers Ball and Terrasa to take in sponsoring this legislation and I commend them in doing so.

One minor quibble I will take up with them about the legislation. I know the "Whereas" clauses in the bill simply serve to frame the issue and do not serve any enforceable, legal purpose, but I do wish that the reference to the President-elect was omitted. Frankly, the President-elect's comments that he has made regarding certain groups of people need to further mention, and no further light needs to be shed upon those comments. We all know what he said and maybe we would be better to keep those comments off of our lips. There seems to be enough of that behavior and sentiment in the community anyway, based on some of the vile social media expressions I've seen in opposition to this bill.

I can get why some people say that they don't support this legislation because they see it as doing nothing. I felt that way myself, when I first saw it posted on the Council's website. But I also realized that as a white, middle-aged male of sufficient means in Howard County, that this legislation was not intended to be one from which I would directly benefit. So, in deciding whether this bill had merit, I did what I suspect many in opposition to this bill did not. I reached out into the community and searched as to whether this bill would make a difference.

And what I found was this. That many people in our community can not take advantage of opportunities available to other residents due to their immigration status, and fear of having to disclose their immigration status. For example, I am confident that there would be many more complaints of abuse and mistreatment of public school students if all Howard County families were comfortable in disclosing their immigration status. There would be more people who would participate in civic affairs, including testifying before this Council, if all Howard

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other examples of how this legislation would help.

And what harm would enacting this legislation bring to our community? I respectfully disagree that this legislation would bring a flood of illegal immigrants into Howard County. Frankly, from a pricing standpoint, Howard County is already an exclusionary place to live. There are already thousands of illegal immigrants who live in Howard County and thanks to the cost of most of the county's housing stock, I doubt there is room for many more. So maybe we shouldn't flatter ourselves that we're such a wonderful community that tens of thousands of people will flock to our marvelous haven. And to respond to some of the common complaints raised by the opposition to this bill, I fail to see anywhere in this bill where the ability of state or federal government to enforce the law or investigate illegal activity in Howard County are anywhere hampered by enforcing this legislation. And third, the ridiculous claims that "rapes and murders" would spike in Howard County with the enactment of this legislation. Like I said before, illegal immigrants are here. Thousands of them. Yet, of all the recent homicides I am aware of in Howard County, I can't recall one within my memory-- certainly not one that affected me personally, and several fit into that category-- which was perpetrated by an illegal immigrant. Or, a legal immigrant for that matter. I can, however, think of homicides perpetrated by the mentally ill and by domestic abusers. Maybe the people who are so angry about this legislation can work on those causes, since they'll need something to do after this legislation passes.

And that brings me to one last point. I do hope that this legislation is able to pass by a 4-1 veto-proof supermajority. The County Executive's statement, which is posted as free advertising for his political position on this issue the Howard County government home page, that he will veto the legislation, prior to this public hearing or, to my knowledge, any effort to amend the legislation, is nothing short of Washington-style political grandstanding come to Howard County. You don't become sensitive to civil rights issues, or any issue, by sitting at the end of a lunch counter and providing lip service. Those are things you can easily compartmentalize and walk away from. But you also don't need to live the life of an abused group of people to know their plight either. Actions speak much louder than words, and looking back at the Kittleman record of achievement and action on the legislative front, I see many promising statements, with relatively little action connected to them. I attended the One Howard forum and signed the pledge, and support the Executive in this endeavor. But I am one signator of that pledge who wants to see more. And I know I'm not alone. And for me, "seeing more" doesn't have to be defined as signing this bill. But it does mean, not

issuing the dismissive statement that was issued. Frankly, at this point, if the bill passes by only a 3-2 majority, or fails, it will greatly diminish the power of this community conversation that I referred to and commended Councilmembers Ball and Terrasa for earlier.

All Howard County residents have the right to equal protection under the law. And that includes fear of reprisal. At its essence, that is exactly what CB9-2017 does. I get that the name "sanctuary" is attached to jurisdictions that have enacted this type of legislation. I don't agree with that title but recognize its existence. Simply put, this legislation reaffirms the opportunity that every resident has, that millions of Americans have died for over the past 240 years. Opportunity that must be and remain available for generations to come as well. I hope that the Council will pass this legislation, hopefully by 4-1 or greater, and affirm that Howard County will commit to being a place where all residents are seen and treated equally in the eyes of local government. Thank you for your time.

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Sanctuary Bill Testimony

Good evening members of the council and thank you for having a hearing on this very important topic. My name is Tammy Spengler, I am a resident of Howard County, District 2, and I work in Howard county, district, 4. I am a mental health practitioner and I am here to represent my office, Focused Solutions and the concerns of many of the 13 therapists that work there. We are an insurance-based facility, serving residents of all incomes, races, and political affiliations. We do not side with a political party but are concerned about the increase in the levels of anxiety that we are seeing in our community.

As therapists we are gravely concerned about the mental health of our community. Over the past six months we have seen a marked increase in fear, anxiety, depression, medication misuse, substance use, and conflict amongst families, neighbors, friends, co-workers, etc. The most notable concern is a general state of fear and anxiety that is occurring in this county and nation. In fact, safety is paramount to good mental health since it is foundational to the nervous system.

I want to be clear that we serve very few, if any, undocumented immigrants. I would like you to also think what this Sanctuary Bill means to all of your constituents, even those who are not at risk of deportation. Many people, myself included, moved to this county because of the inclusive values it is built on. Many of them have testified to that fact. This bill affirms the values of diversity and inclusivity for all residents of Howard County. It also allows people to breathe easier, knowing that their fellow citizens will not be removed. Some, such as our Muslim community, will also be assured that they will not be next. But mostly, the sanctuary bill affirms who we are as a community.

I cannot express to you the impact it has on a person's and community's mental health to live cohesively with our words and our actions. When we betray ourselves and our values, we become complicit with abuse. And that complicity erodes our own self-worth. In my work with trauma victims, it is most often the silence of the non-abusing parent or the partaking in cutting their own switch to be beaten with that victims struggle with the most in their healing process. How will we, as a community feel, if we stand by and let those least amongst us live in fear and not do all we can to support them?

I am also concerned about the safety of our police officers and their families. We have worked hard in Howard County to create a community partnership with the police and residents. Community policing cultivates trust between a community and the police. Militarizing our police force to enforce civil laws would polarize our community. This bond is already fragile, especially with people of color. How do you think other minority communities will feel when they watch their fellow citizens disappear and families torn apart?

It is time to look at ourselves in the mirror and like who we are. I believe we can reduce the anxiety of our entire community if we support the sanctuary bill.

Sincerely,



Tammy J. Spengler, LCSW-C
443 248-3437

 Reply all |  Delete |  Junk |  ...



Re: SUPPORT FOR CB9-2017 SANCTUARY BILL

RS

Rizwan Siddiqi <rasiddiqi@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 9:10 PM

CouncilMail; Rizwan Siddiqi <rasiddiqi@gmail.com>; Fox, Greg; Ball, Calvin B; +3 more



Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Respectable Chairman and Howard County Council Members,

I am writing this email to register our support for CB9 Sanctuary bill on behalf of over 10,000 Howard County Muslim Council members living in Howard County. We are confident that creation of a Sanctuary County would prohibit Howard County employees, including law enforcement, to inquire about a citizen's immigration status or assist in the enforcement of federal immigration laws. As a county that prides itself on diversity and acceptance, opposition to this legislation is a stark contrast to our values. Therefore we like to register our full support and encourage all council members to vote for CB9.

Thank you,

Rizwan Siddiqi
Howard County Muslim Council
Resident: [5410 Josie Court](#)
[Ellicott City, MD 21043](#)
443-739-9234

Testimony to CB-9



ge li <lige_cn@hotmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:19 PM

CouncilMail

Reply all | v

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Dear Council Members:

I am Ge Li, a Howard County resident living in Ellicott City. In this email, I'd like to show my strong opposition to "Sanctuary Bill", on behalf of my family, my friends and my neighbors, who have the same opinion with me.

As we known, Howard District was recognized as Howard County in 1851. With more than 150 years development, Howard County now becomes a welcoming community possessing diverse culture, Inclusive society, prosperous economy and No.1 school district in Maryland.

Undocumented immigrants are a nationwide issue in the United State of America. According to DHS, more than 11 million unauthorized immigrants live in the United States now. We support that the human right of undocumented immigrants living in the Howard County should be ensured. We agree that all residents of Howard County, regardless of nationality or citizenship, shall have fair and equal access to County benefits, opportunities, and services. However, it doesn't means this illegal act should be sheltered and connived. The United States is a monocarcy society. Nobody can violate the law, including immigration law.

The CB-9 bill adds a hollow label of "Sanctuary County" to our county. It does not help to improve the life status of the illegal immigrants who live in Howard County; it does not help to eliminate the inequity which actually exists to some extent during employment and college admission process; on the contrary, it will bring negative effect on the community safety and county development. Therefore, we urge you to veto this bill, instead, to figure out a practical way to grant the undocumented immigrants a legal status coordinating with ICE.

Howard County is the homeland of all Howard county residents, who legally live in Howard County, who love Howard County and who contribute to Howard County. Howard County should not become the sanctuary for illegal immigrants and criminals. We deeply worry about the future of Howard County once CB-9 pass the county council.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Ge Li

 Reply all |   Delete  Junk |  ...



Testimony from
Richard Kohn, Ph.D.
5218 Wood Stove Lane
Columbia, MD 21045

Thank you for considering this bill.

It was my understanding that Howard County did not go out of its way to profile, arrest, incarcerate, or deport residents unless they were guilty of serious crimes. So why not codify this policy and ease the worries of our residents?

As I began to research county policy, I found it very difficult to find out what is actually happening regarding immigration in Howard County. During testimony yesterday, I learned that even the Councilmembers had not seen the agreements with ICE. In fact, the Police Chief seemed to be saying that these policies aren't even written down. If we don't know what the policies are, and we can't get the details, how can we expect our immigrants to figure it out? How would they be able to trust the police or their teachers? Who is to say the policy won't change or will be enforced. I can hardly believe we are having a debate about whether we should put our policies in writing and make them available to the public.

Our County Executive Allan Kittleman says that making this declaration would give our residents a "false sense of security". Is Mr. Kittleman saying that our immigrants should be worried about what the county government may do to them? The bill states that existing agreements with ICE will be unaffected. What are these agreements? Are county employees permitted or encouraged to report undocumented residents to ICE. Which county employees can use their position to target immigrants: teachers, police, office workers? A basic tenet of democracy is that people have a right to know what the laws are and the consequences of violating them. We need to be more transparent about our current policies toward the undocumented, and we need to have a discussion about whether we support all of the agreements the county has made with ICE.

Some of what I could find contradicted our current unofficial and unwritten policy. County Executive Kittleman suggests that the County only turns over hardened criminals to ICE. However, The Baltimore Sun¹ reported that 40% of the people deported in Maryland under the Secure Communities Program actually had no criminal record at all, and others had misdemeanors. Our Police Chief testified

¹John Fritze, The Baltimore Sun, February 08, 2014. Immigration program aimed at criminals deports many with no record.

yesterday that sometimes we do turnover people who are not found guilty. Several news outlets² reported that Howard County incarcerates undocumented residents for several months at a time while they await hearings. For example, the County houses about 75 people at a time in the Jessup facility throughout the year, and receives about \$90 per day per resident, or \$2.4 million per year. However, the average cost of incarcerating someone in Maryland is \$105 per day, so we are losing \$410,000 a year on this deal. Donald Trump would say, "People negotiating these deals for the government are not smart".

Mr. Kittleman says we should base our decision not on what is morally right, but on how much it will cost. He tells us we need to oppose this bill to so that President Trump won't cut off funding for County Programs. Others have shown this to be an idle threat. However, Mr. Kittleman lists about \$12 million worth of Federal Programs we currently receive, out of our \$1.8 billion budget³. That's 0.67% of our budget. However, the Police Chief estimated the total as one tenth of that. But again, that only counts the revenue side. Who is paying to profile our residents, and arrest them? What are the human and financial costs? How much more is the county going to have to pay to help ramp up deportation under the new President?

I support this bill because we need greater transparency about the involvement of our county government with immigration. I hope it will more clearly define the role of the county government, and specifically I don't think the county should be enforcing immigration policy. I accept cooperation with ICE for law enforcement of criminal activity, but the policies for cooperation need to be written and shared with the public. I hope county employees will become more trusted among immigrants, and with that trust the county will be better able to serve our community.

²Amanda Yeager, Capital Gazette, Sep. 27, 2016, Anne Arundel councilmen oppose potential immigrant detention pact

³Fatimah Waseem, The Baltimore Sun, May 26, 2016. Howard County Council adopts \$1.8 billion budget for fiscal year 2017

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Reactions to public hearings - arguments and rebuttals



rosalba davis <rosalba.davis@gmail.com>

Wed 1/18, 10:50 PM

CouncilMail 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Dear Council Members,

After hearing two days of testimony, this is what I was able to gather and summarize as major points against CB9. I also offer the rebuttals to these unsubstantiated claims.

Point 1: doesn't serve the purpose it purports to do

Rebuttal to Point 1: every person who so eloquently voiced their support, explained the multitude of reasons why this bill does what it is intended to do to "Protect undocumented and even documented immigrant residents of Howard County from the overreach that is certain to occur when the incoming administration attempts to carry out raids and dragnet measures that will tear apart families that are contributing to the vitality and health of our county. This bill will also reduce discriminatory profiling of religious and ethnic minorities, a certain outgrowth of the demonization of our immigrant neighbors.

Point 2: we will lose federal funds

Rebuttal to Point 2: as pointed out in the various testimonies, Congress and not the president authorizes federal allocation of funds to local municipalities like HoCo. Additionally, this bill could be debated again if and when there was federal funding at stake but the mere possibility should not be reason enough to not do something that would improve the lives of many Howard County residents

Point 3: the bill is too divisive

Rebuttal to Point 3: these are divisive times. Our country has been very divided for much longer than just this election. Congress has abrogated their authority to deal with a public policy issue of great importance to our country. The abrogation of Congressional responsibility and the stalemate on this issue has transformed the issue into a local issue because our undocumented population has been here for decades and their contributions are real, tangible and touch so many of us.

Point 4: real estate prices go down

Rebuttal to Point 4: this assertion was not supported by any evidence. To see the opposite effect on real estate prices, look to New York and San Francisco

Point 5: we don't have the resources

Rebuttal to Point 5: underlying this position is that we don't already have undocumented people living here and that this bill will "attract" more undocumented folks. This is again unfounded and given we have multiple sanctuary counties surrounding us, it seems exaggerated at best to imagine people coming to Howard County BECAUSE we pass CB9.

Point 6: crime goes up

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See the case of Marcelo Lucero. <http://www.cnn.com/2013/12/17/justice/new-york-hate-crime-police/>
Mr. Lucero was murdered in a hate crime due to his undocumented status.

I grew up in Suffolk county, NY and saw the ugly side of discrimination and Mr Lucero's murder demonstrated how weak leadership to protect undocumented people living here left him and others like him, extremely vulnerable to violence and death.

When we don't stand up for them and we allow the rhetoric to take hold of our core values and principles, our most vulnerable become disposable.

Also, many tough on crime politicians such as Rudolph Giuliani, support sanctuary cities because of the increased collaboration between residents and law enforcement. (See embedded video in this link, showing Giuliani's vocal support for New York City's sanctuary city bill because it protects community).

Point 7: many of the Asian immigrants who testified confusingly testified that CB 9 confers citizenship or status upon the undocumented.

Rebuttal to Point 7: This is a false reading of the plain language of the bill. Deliberate misinformation was spread throughout the testimony.

I note that one of the first articles I came across about CB-9

(see, <https://www.google.com/amp/s/patch.com/maryland/columbia/amp/26860208/sanctuary-county-bill-divides-confuses-constituents-in-howard?client=safari>) quoted Asian Residents stating that

"Two [Chinese-American residents](#) who attended Tuesday's council meeting, where the proposal was introduced, said they were "confused" and "uncomfortable," according to the Howard County Times. "You have to think about the language barrier," Jean Xu of the Chinese-American Parent Association of Howard County told the newspaper. Xu raised the question of how people could understand a bill that even those fluent in English did not comprehend, as far as what it meant to be a "sanctuary county."

Someone brought up the U visa. The U visa requires law enforcement or prosecutors or judges to certify that a noncitizen has helped detect, investigate and prosecute a crime. This visa requires cooperation by law enforcement and many *hostile* jurisdictions like frederick county refuse to sign these certifications and even to investigate crimes against the undocumented.

Furthermore, if someone obtains I visa status, after 3 years as a resident and demonstrating on-going cooperation with law enforcement, they may obtain legal permanent residence if they meet other requirements. I wanted to clarify this issue since I practiced immigration law for many years and represented U visa recipients.

I apologize for the formatting of this email, but I hope this email helps consolidate the unsubstantiated points made against CB9 and offering substantiated rebuttal to each.

Your constituent,
Rosalba Davis
4082 Fragile Sail Way
Ellicott City, MD 21042
917-532-9096

Sent from my iPhone

 Reply all |   Delete  Junk |  



Fw: Do not make Howard County into a sanctuary jurisdiction

BB

Ball, Calvin B

Sun 1/22, 7:38 PM

Sayers, Margery 



 Reply all | 

CB9-2017

Dr. Calvin Ball
Vice Chairperson
Howard County Council, District 2
Ph: 410-313-2001

www.howardcountymd.gov/District2Bio

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

From: Shakil Hamid <Shakil_Hamid@usa.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2017 1:27 PM
To: Ball, Calvin B
Subject: Do not make Howard County into a sanctuary jurisdiction