

Dear Council Members,

My name is Yunshan Ye, resident of Ellicott City MD. Thank you for the opportunity to testify regarding the proposed bill, CB-9. For the record, I strongly oppose the bill, for reasons that many have already stated clearly and forcefully. For sake of time, I will not repeat what's already been said. I just want to take the opportunity to make one clarification and make a final plea.

I have heard many who support the bill speak about "breaking the US immigration law" as if it was no big deal. Repeatedly, following a so-called expert, an immigration lawyer, they claim that it is not a crime to break the immigration law. Yes, we understand that it is not the same as committing robbery or murder. But when you break a law and are punishable by the government, in my definition, you have committed a crime. It may be called a misdemeanor, or felony. But it is a crime, no less! And when we talk about possible impact of illegal immigrants on the security of our community, let's listen to our police, the true and trustworthy experts, not an immigration lawyer who has an obviously vested interest in gaining more customers, nor politicians who are counting on gaining more votes from certain population!

Many CB-9 supporters repeatedly lump all immigrants together, legal and illegal. As a first generation, legal immigrant, I find it very misleading and personally offensive. I came to US as student in 1997. After six years of graduate school, I graduated, got a job, and applied for green card in 2003. I did not get green card until 2012, a total of 9 years' wait. And then I had to wait another three years to become a US citizen. It was a long, often painful process. But I understand, for those of us born outside the country, the US citizenship is a privilege, not a right. Through the long immigration process, I did numerous finger prints, three physical exams, many face to face interviews with immigration officers. In other words, I was thoroughly vetted. When I took my first job, my position was advertised nationally and my employer had to prove to the government that no US citizen would want or was qualified for the job, to ensure I was not taking jobs from US citizens. My employer also had to pay me above average salary, again to ensure I was not cheap labor and undercutting wages of US citizens. This is what it takes to become a legal immigrant. Can we say the same about illegal immigrants? I understand by far the majority of undocumented immigrants are good, decent, hardworking people, people just like us in search of a better life. But the crucial difference is that there is no vetting process for illegal immigrants. That's why we are worried. We are worried that there might be bad guys mixed in them. Again, nobody is saying that all illegal immigrants are criminals. But as someone said earlier, one criminal, one crime, in our community would be too many, if we could have prevented it. If you think this is just fear mongering, tell me why this concern is not justified. When you invite more illegal immigrants coming to our community, don't just cite this number or that number. Just tell me how you would prevent bad guys from coming to our community. If you have a plan, go ahead and tell us. I am all ears. If you have no plan and choose to ignore the concern, then you are being reckless and do not deserve the seat in our government.

I want to end my testimony with a plea. I want to plea with everybody present, all the concerned citizens on both sides of debate. Let's ~~not~~ stop propagating this either/or logic inherent in this bill. That is, either you support the bill or you are a bigot; either you welcome illegal immigrants or you are

xenophobic, racist. Instead, let's agree to disagree and try to find middle ground. Let's find solutions instead of pointing fingers. Despite our differences, I believe we have plenty in common. We all love Howard County, our home. We all take pride in its rich diverse culture and beautiful environment. We all want and need safety. And more importantly, we are not mean spirited people. We all want to help, no matter the homeless, refugees, illegal immigrants, and their children especially. What differs among us is how. Is "Sanctuary County" really the only way to help? Is it really worth it, tearing apart our community, pitting neighbor against neighbor, in order to pursue this bill? Can we wait another 90 days, take a breath, clear our heads of our prejudices and pre-conceived notions, and have more constructive discussions? Can we explore together other, maybe better solutions, solutions that could both help those in need while not destroying our own community?

Public Testimony Transcript
Howard County Council Public Hearing
Bill: CB9, Sanctuary Legislation
Formally Submitted Wednesday, January 18, 2017

Testimony provided by: **Nicole Dvorak**, Howard County Resident, District 3
Address: 9858 Lyon Ave., Laurel, MD 20723

Testimony:

I would like to formally thank the Council for this opportunity to speak. You've listened to so many individuals testify so far and I appreciate all of your time and patience. My name is Nicole Dvorak and I have lived in this area for about 5 years and in Howard County since May of 2016. I live in Council Member Terrasa's district and would like to thank Council Member Terrasa and Council Member Ball for your leadership on this bill.

There have been many who have testified thus far with important data which is necessary for this conversation. I have come to offer a perspective and that is that I think what needs to be added to this discussion is the need for all of us, including each council member, to imagine if you were in the shoes of someone who has immigrated here and might be undocumented. Imagine for one minute what that must be like – you're leaving behind everything, you're risking your life and safety over hundreds or thousands of miles and the risks of that journey pale in comparison to the risks that you face if you were to stay where you live.

You arrive with little to nothing. You don't speak the language. What would you hope for?

When you arrive, many people refuse to even see you as a person, as a fellow human. Some see you as a criminal even though they don't know you or your story. NO ONE will help you. You will need to find some place to stay—and might be constantly at risk of someone kicking you out. You will need to find something to eat, which might be impossible because you don't have the means. You need to provide for your kids—your innocent kids—but they are considered criminals as well.

You have someone tell you that their property values will plummet if they help you. They cannot help you. There is no willingness to understand you—perceptions of who you are have been crafted before you even arrived. You are seen as having no value. YOU. Each of you.

Unfortunately Americans sometimes fail to imagine what it would be like if our roles were reversed with those who we claim don't belong here.

This hearing, this bill, they aren't just about immigration and law enforcement – this is about the essence of humanity and that you need to HAVE some humanity and aspire to be a higher, more enlightened, more compassionate version of who you already are. This can at times be very challenging and challenge personal beliefs that have been molded over time and that have come to form personal and political identities.

This Bill is not an example of empty rhetoric but rather an example of humanity-driven leadership.

EVERYONE was born with a kind heart, without prejudice, without judgement, and from that heart, yours, I implore you to support this legislation.

Dear Council members,

My name is Yong Ma, I live on 4979 Wild Olive Ct, Ellicott City. I moved to Howard County last October. Living here only for 3 months, I already love the beautiful place and the very friendly people of Howard County. Coming from Montgomery county, I want to tell you, do NOT vote for CB-9. If the bill passed, two things will happen, as I witnessed during my 17 year stay in Montgomery County: higher crime rate, and lower rating schools.

Last night I came to listen. I didn't plan to speak. But after listening to folks supporting the bill, I decided to sign up, I simply could not agree with what they said.

One person mentioned that 70% of Howard County voted against Donald Trump. And because Trump is against illegal immigration, the same 70% people must all support the bill. Wrong, that is completely wrong! I, for one, did vote against Donald Trump, but, I want to speak loud and clearly, I oppose bill CB-9. And here is why:

1. Nobody should go beyond our law. Not you, not me, not someone from other countries. The United States is a great country and Howard County is the place we call home. We love our country and our county. Why? Because this is a place law is respected and things are in order. Illegal immigrants are illegal, they came to our country illegally. They broke our law first, why should we put their interest above ours? The immigration law was put in place to protect us, if it needs to be amended, let's work together at the federal level, through the legal route. The CB-9 bill does not serve that purpose, rather, it'll open a flood gate, calling all illegal immigrants to come here. That is not what we need and that is not what we want.
2. There is a difference between legal immigrants and illegal immigrants. Mind you, I am an immigrant, a legal immigrant. Please don't mix up us with illegal immigrants. The CB-9 bill wants to think that we are all the same, but we are NOT. We, the legal ones, followed the law, worked every step of the way to become US citizens. It took us years to gain the permanent residence status. And, we don't have any fear, we didn't break our law. What are we afraid of?
3. One person claimed that statistics showed crime rate is lower among immigrants. Yes, that is true for the legal immigrants. But I DOUBT that is true among illegal immigrants. Before we can have solid data, let's be cautious and protect our lawful citizens first.

Testimony of James N. Purcell, Jr., Chairman of the Board of Directors, US Association for International Migration, before the Howard County Council, Re: Bill No. 9-2017, January 18, 2017

My objective is to put the sanctuary cities debate on a higher plane. It is part of a much bigger issue that is playing itself out around the world.

For nearly 50 years, I have worked to promote the principle of safe, orderly, and legal migration. Working in the U.S. and with other governments around the world, I have sought to establish and promote national and global migration regimes that are open, generous, diverse, that provide opportunity, and that are legal.

I have found that the greatest enemy of efforts to promote orderly and safe migration are governments, local, state or national, that lead people (rejected or unvetted asylum seekers, visa overstayers, or those who decide to avoid the legal migration route altogether) to skirt the system, to work around the system, to gain immigration advantages. Sanctuary cities – counties – is a noteworthy example. Let me illustrate.

At the end of the Vietnam War, Secretary of State cyrus Vance asked me to head up an effort to create a rescue mechanism for the millions of Southeast Asia allies (Vietnamese, Cambodian, Laotian) left behind after American troops withdrew. That led to creation of State "Refugee Program" which I led for most of the next decade. As Assistant Secretary of State for Refugee Program, I was the head of the American refugee program, involving multiple federal agencies, state and local governments, NGOs, multilateral organizations and partner governments.

Over the next decade, we resettled almost a million refugees in the United States and almost that many in other governments. We also helped many gain political asylum in this country or to return those who did not qualify. We convinced doubting government heads, legislative bodies, NGOs, state and local governments, etc, that we could manage the social, political, and economic consequences of this vast movement of people in beneficial ways for our societies. We established vetting procedures that ensured that those who migrated met legal requirements for admission. After many hours and days of contentious testimony before the U.S. congression and multilateral organizations, we achieved consensus on humane and lawful admissions programs.

We assisted people like many of those we have heard about over the past two days. These were people fleeing persecution for reasons of religion, race or national origin, forced out of their homes because of war, corruption, or natural disasters, enterprising young people seeking to expand their horizons and world view, people seeking to better provide for their families, and a host of other legitimate reasons. They made incredible contributions to our societies. And, they came legally.

I was introduced to the notion of sanctuary cities almost four decades ago, in Central America. Some groups opposed to Reagan administration policy in Central America convinced large numbers of people who did not qualify for refugee or asylum status to surreptitiously flee to the United States and seek safety in secure places beyond the reach of U.S. law, which they called sanctuary cities. Our efforts to convince the CA governments to undertake needed reforms to keep their citizens at home or to convince protected populations to return and seek legal entry were under-mined by the so-called sanctuary cities. Why should they risk guaranteed protection offered by uninformed local governments?

After the State Department, I was nominated by President Reagan to become the U.S. candidate to be Director General of the IOM in Geneva. I won a five-year term in 1988 and was renominated by President Clinton in 1993 for a second term.

My job there was to work with the world's governments to "again" promote the safe, orderly and beneficial movement of people between governments and societies. Over my time there, we helped over four million relocate from danger, poverty, corruption, or to find better opportunities. We found many governments and societies willing to become their brothers' keepers, and to do so lawfully.

Today, global conditions are worsening. Populations of endangered people around the world are rising to epic proportions. The number is now estimated at 65 million and rising. Governments in all regions are reacting defensively, setting up walls or other defensive barriers to keep people out. Previously welcoming doors are slamming shut. That's obviously a reaction to terrorism and a growing concern that governments and societies can no longer control their borders and protect their citizens and economies.

How do we counter these negative trends? We must work to assure people in this country and around the world that even as we reach out to help the multitudes of deserving people around the world, we can identify and keep out harmful or unlawful elements.

Why so much concern about rejected or unvetted asylum seekers, migration system abusers? Just look at Germany today. About 1.2 million unvetted asylum seekers came last year. The result: Germany and the rest of Europe fractured, migration barriers cropping up around the world, societies turning inward.

We can do better. We must do better. This proposal diminishes efforts to make needed course adjustments in migration regimes and approaches.

January 17, 2107

Testimony in opposition to CB9-2017

I'm a third generation Howard Countian and have been a Howard County resident for over 50 years. I operate a business in Howard County and own seven properties in the county. I'm invested here emotionally, financially, and spiritually. It has always been and always will be my home. It's been a great place to live and raise my family. One of the things that has made our county such a pleasant place to work and live is the low crime rate, and for the most part, our resident's natural instinct to obey our laws. By making our county a place of refuge for those who are here by willingly disobeying the law, we are creating and encouraging a new county culture. A culture that says it's OK to disobey federal law if you belong to a certain group of people. Why on earth would we encourage people to break the law and why would we encourage law breakers to take up residence in Howard County? Our country, state, and county are governed by laws set in place to protect the citizens. By allowing people to break these laws you are advocating lawlessness. I urge you to reject this bill and uphold your oath of office to follow the rule of law in Howard County. We can remain welcoming, kind, caring, and civil and still maintain a lawful society.

Respectfully,
Paul Harvey
7605 Greendell Lane
Highland, MD 20777

Undocumented worker sues San Francisco for violating sanctuary law

By Alex Dobuzinskis
Reuters January 18, 2017

(Reuters) - An undocumented immigrant from El Salvador is suing San Francisco alleging police violated the city's sanctuary city policy by turning him over to U.S. immigration authorities after he reported his car stolen.

The lawsuit was filed on Tuesday on behalf of Pedro Figueroa Zarceno, 32, in federal court in San Francisco against the city and its police chief for violating his right to due process and breaking an ordinance barring municipal employees from cooperating with federal immigration authorities seeking to deport a person.

Figueroa walked into a police station in November 2015 to report his car stolen, according to the lawsuit. Two days later, the car was found and when he went to recover it, he was handcuffed and led outside where federal immigration agents were waiting for him, the lawsuit said.

The civil action comes as San Francisco and dozens of other U.S. cities face pressure from President-elect Donald Trump, who takes office on Friday, to abandon their policies of limiting cooperation between law enforcement officers and U.S. immigration authorities.

"We'll obviously have to review the lawsuit before we can comment on it," John Cote, a spokesman for the San Francisco city attorney, said by phone. "That being said, San Francisco has strong policies in place to encourage victims and witnesses to report crimes without fear of being deported."

The incident occurred about five months after an undocumented immigrant was charged with murder in the shooting of a woman at a San Francisco pier.

The shooting drew nationwide attention because the alleged killer, Juan Francisco Lopez-Sanchez, was previously arrested on a drug charge and released from jail months before the shooting, despite a request from federal officials that he be held until they could pick him up. Sanchez has pleaded not guilty.

Figueroa's attorney, Saira Hussain of the nonprofit group Asian Americans Advancing Justice, said by phone it was a "possibility" that officers arrested her client because they were influenced by the controversy over the Sanchez case.

The Council on Islamic American Relations (CAIR), the nation's largest Muslim civil rights and advocacy organization, supports the Sanctuary Legislation- CB9 as a proactive measure that Howard County should take to preserve local resources for local priorities and make the distinction between local agencies and federal authorities.

Howard County is home to approximately 60,000 foreign-born people, like the Mohammeds, who were featured on the front of the Clarksville neighborhood magazine. Families like the Mohammeds contribute to the strength and diversity of Howard County.

Immigration enforcement is the responsibility of the federal government. Local participation with federal immigration enforcement is completely voluntary. Local law enforcement enforcing federal immigration law erodes community trust and does not prevent crime. As a civil rights organization, CAIR receives many reports of hate crimes, but victims are often reticent to speak to law enforcement. When people are afraid to report crimes, it makes a community unsafe.

According to research conducted the Department of Urban Planning and Policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, 70 percent of undocumented immigrants and 44 percent of Latinos surveyed are less likely to report if they were the victim of crime and 45 percent of Latinos are less likely report crimes or voluntarily offer information about a crime for fear police officers would ask about their immigration status.

The threat of deportation for undocumented individuals is real. Many children report fearing that they will return to empty homes if their parents are taken away while they were in school. When families are broken apart, communities are also destroyed. In order to promote strong families and communities, local law enforcement should not entangle itself from U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

County policies that assist ICE with deportation open localities to liability and discourage residents from reporting criminal activity.

County policies that limit assistance with federal immigration enforcement are proactive actions that preserve local resources and keep families and communities intact. Prohibitions on asking about immigration status discourage profiling and discrimination. When people feel like they belong then it fosters feelings of community.

Looking at cities across the country, we find that sanctuary cities face lower crime rates after passing this legislation. Murder rates in San Francisco, one of the oldest sanctuary cities, were at their lowest in 2014 (with 45 murders) since the 1989 "City of Refuge" ordinance was enacted. There are approximately 39 cities (including Las Vegas, Tucson, New York, Boston, and Chicago) and 364 counties (mainly in California, Colorado, Florida, New York, Oregon, and Washington) with some sort of sanctuary policy as of Nov. 17, 2016. Additionally, four states have statewide sanctuary policies: California, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Howard County can be a leader in Maryland on this issue, giving peace of mind to many families and their communities.

Hina Zuberi
CAIR; Editor-in-Chief, Muslimmatters

Statement from HCDCC

Howard County prides itself on being a caring, inclusive community that is welcoming to all. Our County is strengthened and enriched by our diversity. What Bill No. 9-2017 is trying to prevent is inquiring or questioning an individual's immigration status simply when they encounter and interact with law enforcement or County government personnel. This bill would encourage anyone who is a victim of a crime or a witness to crime to assist the police without the fear that their resident status might be used against them. Therefore, this bill will improve the safety of every resident of Howard County because it will increase the likelihood that people will communicate freely with law enforcement. We want safety for all of our citizens regardless of their nationality, or background. We cannot truly claim to be "One Howard" or that we "choose civility" if we do not act in a consistent manner. The current rhetoric both on-line and public forums is not consistent with these values. This bill proposes no concept that would cause us to violate State or Federal law and therefore the concern that we would lose federal funding or resources is unwarranted. Moreover, the idea that there will be a flood of immigrants rushing to our county is not supported by the fact that Baltimore City, Prince George's County, and Montgomery County are all sanctuary Counties and experienced no explosion in their immigrant populations since adopting that status.

As Ghandi stated "a civilization is measured by how it treats its weakest and most vulnerable members", this bill is a small step towards the goal of being a better, more just community. The members of the Howard County Democratic Central Committee support this bill.

Good evening, my name is Lorraine Savoy, and I am a resident of Columbia. I am here to speak in support of CB 9. I have had the dubious benefit of being able to listen to many of the speakers before me, and I will try to respond to some of the issues I kept hearing.

One argument against this law is that it's not needed. Police Chief Gardner stated that it was already the unwritten policy of the police department to treat all individuals equally. An unwritten policy is not a guarantee to a reluctant witness or a traumatized victim. An unwritten policy is worth the paper it is written on. This law will reassure a portion of the community that they can come forward to report a crime, give a witness statement, or testify in court without fear, and that can only make the whole community safer.

I have heard from multiple speakers that they fear an influx of gang activity, targeting the recruitment of undocumented youths. The single best way to ensure that happens is to make those young people feel that their society does not care about them and does not value their future. If this law is passed, there will be fewer reasons for undocumented youths to join gangs, not more.

Many people in opposition to this bill have stated that they fear it will bring droves of undocumented people to this community, putting a strain on our resources. We all know that they are already here. They are children in the classroom, and families shopping at the grocery store, and dishwashers in the restaurant kitchens, and home health aides caring for elderly patients, and construction workers building downtown Columbia. They didn't come to Howard County because of its policies, written or unwritten. They don't research places with favorable laws or ask a real estate agent to help them find a house in a sanctuary area. They came here and stayed for the same reasons we all came here and stayed: jobs and families. Undocumented people are simply looking for a chance to work and way to make the world better for their families. This law won't attract more of them; it will simply allow them to be a more active part of this community.

Some immigrant speakers who are against this law worry that it will affect how people view them. They have stated that they fear that people will look at them and wonder if they are undocumented too. Let us be very clear; no one can tell from looking at another person what their immigration status is...but most of us do have a vision in our heads of what an immigrant looks like. If you look like an immigrant, people already wonder about your immigration status. This law certainly won't prevent any of us from making assumptions in our heads, but it will prevent those assumptions from becoming actions.

I have learned so much in the last 24 hours. I have learned that the democratic system of government as seen in Howard County is not perfect, but it truly tries to give everyone an equal voice. I have learned that a deeply felt belief can inspire people on both sides who have never been active in government, never even slapped a bumper sticker on their car to come out on a weeknight, stay for hours, and speak in a public forum. To all of the speakers, thank you for inspiring me. I have also learned that those in opposition to this law are well organized, passionate, and care deeply about this community. I honor their commitment, and though we see this issue differently, I know that we all want the best for Howard County.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify this evening.

I agree and support the testimony that has been presented to the Council to not support this Bill CB9, No Sanctuary Howard County.

I would like to add that if this Council votes to made Howard a Sanctuary County the message to the undocumented immigrants in this country is Howard County is open for business, free medical, education, housing all paid for by the tax payers. We do have limited resources and the Council's should be beholding the tax payer first and good stewards of their money. Good Government dictates that the Council should prepare a cost benefit analysis/fact base impact study. Cost benefit analysis should be a pre-requisite to introducing such a socially divisive bill that threatens our "One Howard."

With this new influx of illegal immigrants there will be good people and there will be those that are not desirable with the intent to do harm. Both types consume resources.

As it has been seen in Baltimore, Chicago and other sanctuary counties and cities that the homicide rate will increase due to gang violence. Why should our Police Officers, and citizens be subject to this increase in crime only for a few on the Council for political posturing?

Michael Knowles
2822 Saddlebred Court
Glenwood, MD 21738

No human being is illegal.

Said Elie Wiesel who died last year after long life of being our conscience.

I am an immigrant.

Since Mr. Trump's immigration speech, I have been distressed.

Since his election to the highest office, now more so. I have trouble sleeping.

I have papers. I can not imagine the despair in those families, that do not have them.

I have already felt a sharpness at passport controls when reentering from overseas.

There are reports that at the Mexican border Immigration officials already sent asylum seekers away, ignoring the law.

No Mercy? No kindness?

Who do we want to be?

In the New York Harbor stands the Iron Lady--- and I do not mean Primeminister Thatcher, with her torch. The Statue of Liberty is known all over the world as the symbol for America and for me also the image of strong immigrant woman that settled the prairies, worked in the factories, shops and homes.

I arrived on the 8th of April 1976, the year of the Centennial, a proud year for American Democracy! The year my first child was born.

Last year was not a proud year.

There are the stains of the Holocaust and War on my birth country, as there are stains on this country. Slavery, the dispossession and almost extermination of Native Americans, the Japanese Internment, torture and injustice.

But there also was the Marshal Plan, generosity in many ways, a thriving for justice and a willingness to engage with the world and make people's lives better.

This bill may end up being just symbolic, but it makes me feel proud of the community I live in.

And I thank you for it.

These are Elie Wiesel's words:

There may be be times, when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.

That is why I am here.

Thank you

Ortrud D. H. Dixon

I am Mary Lou Koudelka Boris I am proud to say that I graduated from Glenelg High School in 1964 My husband & I are retired and live in the home my parents built back in the '50's in Clarksville Ridge – we have invested a great deal of time and money in the property to bring it into the modern world and feel that this bill is not only a threat to our county but also to our investment in the county and our way of living.

It has long been the very fabric of this country to absorb those people who come to us needing and wanting to make a new life here in a safe and compassionate land. It has also historically been the wise policy to vet those who struggle to find freedom here – not because we are a snobbish people but because our early government realized that if we want to continue to offer a safe harbor we must first have that to offer. The current global economy and political events bring danger to our doorstep. And let us be very clear – we are not talking about immigrants here – despite what some are saying, this is about illegal immigration and illegal immigrants.

Assimilation becomes difficult if not impossible when people enter the country illegally – for whatever their reason. They chose to enter a country of laws illegally. This was their choice. Citizenship in this country is a mighty and powerful right that most of us received at birth and usually take for granted. Illegals know the benefits but did not earn them the way our grandparents, parent and forefathers did.

LOOK AROUND THIS ROOM – LOOK CAREFULLY - We are all mutts. And we should be very proud of this because we are a strong, determined and loving people – we want to provide a safe and loving environment for the future of our country and county. Declaring Ho. Co. a sanctuary county is not in the best interest of the county or its tax payers who will have to foot the exorbitant bill to cover the cost of the hundreds, if not, thousands, of illegals who will gravitate here. The entire economy of the county will be negatively affected and the county will find housing prices fall and the cost of living (especially for retired seniors like us) negatively impacted. If schools are facing cost issues now the ripple effect will be more than costly – if this happens prepare for drastic changes in the quality of your tax paid services. A life time ago I chose to live in Ho. Co. not Baltimore City, Montgomery Co. or DC, If this bill goes through you will see an

exodus of your reliable tax base - I have listened to people who say they will leave. Seniors who have lived here all their lives and built this county into what it is today are already complaining about how hard it is for them to stay here on their (my) fixed incomes. Remember what Kruchiev said when he was pounding his shoe on the table in the UN - "We will destroy you from within." I implore you - do not vote for this bill - assist our illegals to become citizens "if" they deserve it - properly vetted and legally. If not - let them return home. No visa - here illegally - either choose to seek legal assistance (and we heard last night that there is lots of that here) and work within the law or leave. IF YOU WANT TO BE A RESPONSIBLE CITIZEN THEN YOU MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIONS. Do you know the meaning of the word Hutspah....The child who begged the judge for leniency after murdering his parents - why because he was now an orphan. YOU MUST BE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR ACTIONS.

Don't forget the unintended consequences for good intentions and un-needed legislation. Remember that there is a huge difference between a citizen of Ho Co and a resident of the county. We are playing with non-citizens voting in elections that form and mold the shape of our government. Do I need to pound my shoe on the table! I am working from within. And please integration and education is a glittering bandwagon that has nothing to do with illegal citizenship. If you are not a citizen you should be a visitor.

There is no benefit to the county or its tax payers if this bill is enacted - in any form. I must say that I find it appalling that so many people have engaged in political fear mongering and even resorted (as was displayed in testimony last night) to political blackmail of one of our council members. Ladies and gentlemen of the council you were reminded last night that you took an oath and let me remind you that you are here not just for your district but for the county. Let me remind you of the ethics of your position. Do not allow one group to gut your integrity.

Thank you for the opportunity to present not only my views but the views of countless other silent majority county citizens. Howard Co. is largely Democratic and I hope you listen to the silent bipartisan majority who voted in our Republican Governor and Republican County Executive...I truly hope that you will vote no to this and any sanctuary bill.

John W. Taylor
6528 Prestwick Drive
Highland, MD 20777
Johnwtaylor4@comcast.net
301-854-0519

Testimony AGAINST Council Bill No. 9-2017 "Sanctuary Howard County"

1. No part or portion of Howard County government should ever refuse to cooperate in any way with any other Local, State or Federal Law Enforcement Agency for any reason what so ever.

As a county citizen, I want my county government to cooperate fully with other law enforcement agencies, including Immigration & Customs Enforcement (ICE).

This is a public safety issue and is particularly important post 9/11/2001. That day showed there were numerous 'walls' between various law enforcement agencies, and those 'walls' in part caused the perverse 'success' of those terrorist strikes that day.

I want Howard County to be at the forefront of cooperation between all levels of law enforcement. This bill would erect an unnecessary and harmful wall between Howard County government and other governments and law enforcement agencies. That would place our citizens at unnecessary risk, and must not be allowed to happen.

2. County Council members swore an oath to uphold the US and Maryland Constitutions. Our Federal ICE agency draws its enforcement powers from the Constitution and the due process passage of federal laws under our Constitution.

The introduction let alone passage of a 'Sanctuary' law like CB9-2017 is a violation of the oath of office taken by all County Council members. That bill should be withdrawn.

3. CB9-2017 If passed would place the citizens of Howard County at undue and unnecessary risk. The withdrawal or refusal to enact CB9-2017 is necessary from a public safety standpoint.

In San Francisco CA on July 1, 2015, an illegal alien in possession of a stolen handgun shot and killed an American citizen on Pier 14 of the Embarcadero, a public gathering and popular tourist location. That illegal alien had been deported 5 times previously, and had 7 felony convictions at the time of the shooting. Prior to the shooting on July 1, the San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) had received a request from ICE to hold this illegal alien for ICE pick up. But because of the designation of San Francisco as a 'Sanctuary City' the SFPD refused to cooperate with ICE, and the illegal alien was left free to roam San Francisco. And on July 1, 2015 in possession of an illegal firearm, this illegal alien did shoot and kill American Citizen Kate Steinle.

There is a straight line from the Sanctuary Law in San Francisco to the shooting death of Kate Steinle. If CB9-2017 became law, what happened on Pier 14 in San Francisco could happen at Centennial Park, or Ellicott City Main Street or the Columbia Mall. That must not be allowed.

I do not want Howard County Citizens put at risk by the unnecessary and irresponsible designation of Howard County as a "Sanctuary" location. To the contrary, if any part of Howard County government receives any kind of request from ICE, I want that request honored to the quickest and fullest extent possible. This is necessary to ensure the safety of Howard County citizens.

In consideration of the above, I ask that CB9-2017 be withdrawn by the sponsors and that no similar legislation be introduced ever again. If the sponsors refuse to withdraw the bill, I ask that all remaining County Council members vote against this bill.

John W. Taylor
January 17, 2017

CB-9 Testimony of Tonya Tiffany in Opposition

I have already submitted testimony via email, but after sitting through 4 hours of last night's testimony I thought that a different perspective was warranted. Last night I tried to really listen to not only the words, but also the feelings behind the words of the supporters and opponents of the bill as well as the council members. I heard fear and anger on both sides.

This bill is supposed to fight against the rhetoric of hate, bigotry, racism and islamophobia and is supposed to make citizens feel safer in our county. However, the way that it is presented is in a way that is frankly upsetting too many other citizens of our county and may in fact be making the situation worse. The election of President-elect Trump is not the problem, but a symptom of what has been brewing for well over a decade. You see, for quite a long time people like myself have been bullied and called names not for the color of my skin or for the sex of the person that they love, but for the stance's that they have politically.

We have been called Islamophobic for caring about homosexuals and women's rights in the Middle East as we worry about the rise of Radical Islam and the terrorism that they are spreading around the world. We have been called racist for wanting to figure out how to transition people off of welfare. We have been called homophobic for supporting traditional marriage and religious liberties. We have been called a whole host of names for caring for the lives of unborn children. For these views we have been called all kinds of things and they aren't just by jerks who are trolling the internet. Often times it is by elected officials like yourselves as well as the media.

So over the past decade this resentment has been simmering and lately it has gotten to the boiling point, but not just on our side. It has infected our society down to the core. All this name calling on both sides has got to stop. We have got to stop and listen to the hurt and the pain of our fellow citizens. I may be against CB-9, but that doesn't make me a hateful person. If you actually bother to talk to me and listen for once you will find that I have my valid reasons as well.

Don't pass this bill as a knee jerk reaction to a narcissist becoming President. Please stop insulting your fellow citizens and dismissing our valid concerns about safety and law and order. You have heard them for two nights now. Be apart of healing our nation. Talk with us, let's try to find some common ground.

We didn't die when we thought the end of our country was coming 8 years ago and you won't either. It is time we figured out how to do this together. Thank you.

Alec Adams

Subject: FW:

The limited express powers of a Maryland charter county, the subject matter of the bill and the legislative overreach between the legislative/executive branches makes CB 9 way above the "pay grade" of this Council to address. As recognized by the Bill itself, issues of citizenship, naturalization, immigration are the sole and exclusive providence of the federal government.

The apparent argument of the sponsors that it doesn't *really* affect anything, so it doesn't hurt, is politically dishonest and abusive of the cost to taxpayers for this publicity stunt in the context of the personal political ambitions of term limited politicians. Mr. Weinstein is the only councilperson eligible to run for reelection. What has been the cost to Howard County taxpayers? If I counted right there was double digit presence of uniform officers. What is the Council afraid of- maybe angry taxpayers at another government waste of tax dollars?

Our founding fathers carefully drafted our federal system, to minimize the power of government by an elaborate system of "checks and balances" and to protect against the tyranny of the majority, ergo our presidential electoral system and the proportionally represented House of Representatives and the Senate of 50 equal states.

Under your Oath of Office and Art. 2 of Maryland's Declaration of rights you are mandated to follow the Federal Constitution, its laws and treaties. Voting for this Bill would advocate violating federal law and breaching your individual oath.

To our founding fathers an *oath was the essence of a person's integrity*. The sponsors of this Bill and any council supporters are in my opinion violating their Oath of Office if you vote for this Bill.**

Former State Delegate Hugh Burgess often quoted the truism "No man's life, liberty, or property are safe while the legislature is in session." The outrageous 3rd and 4th Whereas clauses of this bill validate Mr. Burgess' sentiments.

Those clauses constitute a 'deplorable' political attack, abusive of your elected positions ostensible representing *all citizens in your council districts, and worst yet* using taxpayer resources and funds to advance a **single political party agenda**. It is more than a little ironic that your nominee advanced scathing attacks against her opponent for refusing to honor the results of the election-- *until oops, she lost*.

**

On November 29th, 2014 you all took the Maryland constitutional (Section 9) Oath of Office, to **support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and Laws thereof; .. Incidentally if you don't take the oath you forfeit the office.(Section 11)**

Under the Maryland Declaration of Rights:

Art. 2. The Constitution of the United States, and the Laws made, or which shall be made, in pursuance thereof, and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, are, and shall be the Supreme Law of the State; and the Judges of this State, and all the People of this State, are, and shall be bound thereby; anything in the Constitution or Law of this State to the contrary notwithstanding.

E. Alexander Adams
Adams & Adams
P. O. Box 358

Glenelg, Maryland 21737
Phone 410-489-9888
Fax: 410-489-9886
E-mail: eea@a-alaw.com
Cell – 443-812-0817

Good Evening,

My name is Jianning Zeng. I am here to present my strong objection to Bill CB-9.

16 years ago, I came to America from China. I got my PhD degree, and work as a system engineer. My husband is a meteorologist. As Christians, donation is our life. We follow the law of this country, and the law protects us.

I have been lived in Maryland, Baltimore County and Howard County, for more than 15 years. Through these years I have seen the fact that the undocumented immigrants in Howard County are already warmly embraced, welcomed, accepted, accommodated, treated and given many benefits.

Historically, charity and social welfare has always been done most efficiently, and compassionately through churches, volunteer organizations, local communities, and individuals, as many of us are diligently and faithfully doing now.

Our church members are involved in helping poor including undocumented people living in McDonald House and other charities in Howard County and Baltimore city. I know many local churches have free English teaching classes and free summer camps for the kids including undocumented kids. According to Giving USA and Bureau of Labor, American have given to charitable organizations almost \$400 billion or 2.1% GDP, and volunteered almost 63 million hours in 2015.

Charity begins at home and is not the purview of professional politicians!

James Madison, (one of our great nation's founding fathers) who wrote the first drafts of the U.S. Constitution and sponsored the Bill of Rights, once said, "Charity is no part of the legislative duty of the government." Those who crafted the Constitution did not intend to limit the government's role in helping less fortunate people out of mean-spirit; they did so out of a sense of what would best serve the public. They believed that bureaucrats spending other people's money – funds taken by force – is not the best way to promote charitable activities.

We have grown weary of elected politicians enacting legislation for their personal political gains or recognition. We are tired of legislators spending our money to further their political aspirations and agenda, and we are angry that elected government officials are once again ignoring the will of the people.

I urge you to vote NO to Howard County Bill-9, 2017 or we need more public hearing.

According to a 2012 Congressional Research Service report, combined annual federal and state spending on antipoverty programs exceeds one trillion dollars. These programs, are notoriously wasteful, often counterproductive and frequently motivated by political gain rather than a sincere, intent to help people. These programs allegedly intended to assist those who are less fortunate, use monies extracted from taxpayers, dispensed by bureaucrats, and subject to rules and regulations designed by government administrators, remove personal responsibility from both the giving and receiving ends of the equation.

In addition to waste, the subsequent unintended consequences of these social engineering experiments have produced government dependency, family breakdown, and have eliminated the sense of accountability by the recipients in that they are primarily responsible for their lives.

Private charitable giving and the spirit of volunteerism have been essential bulwarks of the American

Good Evening:

My name is Greg Soon. I live on 11857 Tall Timber Dr., Clarksville, District 4. I am a resident there for 13 years; I lived in Maryland for over 20 years. And I came to this country more than 30 years ago and paid all taxes every year; I received my citizenship in 1999, waiting in the line patiently for 12 years.

That is the only way I know then on how to become a citizen. Unfortunately, I did not know the people in the council who drafted this legislation, or otherwise they might have been able to advise me on how to legally staying here illegally, and get all the benefits such as going to school, going to college with full financial aid, going to emergency rooms for both minor and major problems without paying a dime. I wish I knew you sooner. However you must be happy to know that, there are hundreds millions people all over the world, after hearing your amnesty, may want to come to Howard county, so you will have a chance to squeeze further the hard working tax payers. May be this is the beacon you intended in the first place, maybe not.

Dear Council members, Mary Kay you are in my district, I am worried about the safety of my kids and family, when people moved here without going through the vetting process. I do not understand why legal immigrants have to go through background checks, but illegals do not have to do. Why do you want to tie the hands of our law enforcement, either the police or immigration officers? I consider immigration a federal issue and we need to respect the authority of the federal government, even if you do not like the new administration. You are so concerned about the safety of the illegal immigrants; wouldn't you please also look after the safety of my kids?

I am also worried about the long-term economic consequences for my family. With each illegal immigrant, kids and adults, the residents here have to pay for whatever the expenses they incur. As a father of three kids, both my wife and I have to work to be able to pay various taxes and assessments, and making our ends meet. When my children go to college, the chance for them to get any financial aid is pretty much non-existent for no reason other than we are paying enough taxes, we have to save money for their tuition. I would also like my wife to stay home to raise the children, because that would be of best interest to them, but we could not afford it. I am very much worried. Do you understand?

Last night's testimony included several from lawyers who profit from illegal immigrants, it is obvious that they are biased and will do things that harm the interest of the residents, but I am very disappointed that the chair person invited them to the work session. Could you get people who truly represent the voters to the working session, not the special interest? Could you at least disguise your bias better?

I'm here tonight to strongly oppose CB9-2017. I think it is a bad legislation, and have bad consequences for the county and the nation.

This is the testimony of John Liao on Howard County Sanctuary Bill (CB9-2017)

Good Evening! My name is John Liao and I have been a resident of central Maryland for 8 years. I am a financial advisor and a pragmatist. My job is to work out numbers for people.

I am very critical of CB9 because I think the motivations for the bill are weak, they lack depth and insight, and worse of all, it provides no scenario analysis on how to deal with different types consequences if the bill is passed. Nevertheless, I am not here tonight to go through the list to criticize this proposal. Instead I want to share something with you from a mother who is deeply troubled by CB9 not because of what it can protect but what it could destroy. Her message and her fear touched me and I want to share her thoughts with you all.

The core message states that while we have laws to provide basic protection but more often we rely on mutually agreed civic values and virtues to build a prosperous society. In my understanding, that means trust between one another is an essential component for people to come and work together. In this hour of fear and uncertainty, I strongly feel that being able to work together and define common value is so important simply because we do not know what to expect tomorrow. In her original words:

This country has come a long way since Dr. King's speech and many civil rights movements. Yes, Law has been put in place as a result of those movements. But BELIEVE IT OR NOT, it's not any legislature or law enforcement that has changed so many hearts of Americans. It's from Dr. King's speech! It's from stories from many suppressed minorities in the past. It's the education from our parents, our teachers and pastors through many generations. Just like how we would teach our kids not to speak foul words or hurtful things to others, and we should do nothing but to respect one another. That is the MORAL VALUES among all of us that had kept this society a secure place to live. The police chief who testified yesterday told us that the police department has always implemented a policy not to inquire immigration status to the county residents and their policy is to treat all individuals equally. Let us not insult them by saying: "Your Policy could change anytime without a written legislature". If I am not mistaken, I believe our police officers established their department policy NOT because of any legislature, but because of their MORAL VALUES and COMMON SENSE.

Dear Council Members – it should be obvious to you now that CB9 will create divisions in our community and this will only breed even more prejudice, bigotry and even hate.

This will not be easy going forward; what we need is to work together and blend our values to create a stronger sense of unity and stand together. Declaring Howard a sanctuary city without diligent review of problems and well planned policy measures will only add more problems on top of the ones we are already struggling to resolve. The sanctuary status will surely worsen our overall capability as a county to resolve future threats regardless where they come from. I ask you to review this bill carefully and our thoughts, and please evaluate the consequences. I appreciate your effort and consideration.

Thank you

Mr Chairman and Council Members,

My name is Sandy Parlett and I live on Willowind Ct near Glenelg Country School.

I have to start by seconding the opinion of Keith, the last person to testify last night ... you council members are ROCK STARS, and by the way Keith it was worth staying up to hear your statement.

Council Members...Thank you for your service and dedication. This is important and hard work and I value your fortitude.

This is an important time in our country, and this bill clearly represents important issues.

I strongly support CB9-2017 because I choose the side of codifying what our police describe as their current policy to respect confidentiality regarding immigration status, without changing the ability of police to investigate suspected violators of criminal law.

I have some research results here to leave with you that support positive results of this policy in regards to safety concerns and crime statics, as well as federal funding issues.

I think the number of our passionate, contributing foreign born neighbors who are working hard to make where we live a better place, documented, or undocumented far exceeds those few who garner the headlines as evidenced by multiple testimonies last night.

Therefore:

I choose our inclusive values of promoting trust over fear.

I choose to extend a welcoming message of community to those who had to flee poverty, violence & fear.

I choose to place compassion for people above finances and politics.

I stand on the side of doing the right thing, to giving those more vulnerable the opportunity to live without fear.

I stand in strong support of Sanctuary Status for Howard County and am very proud to be part of this process and call Howard County Home. And because this is a process I urge those on the Council who are not completely comfortable with the bill as it is written to offer counter proposal until a middle ground agreement can be reached to pass the bill.

Respectfully yours,
Sandy Parlett

Dear County Executive and members of the County Council,

I have lived in District 5 of Howard County for 17 years.

As a retired social worker I believe strongly in the core values of human rights, the inherent worth of each individual and the importance of respecting those rights, and providing equal services to all, regardless of ethnic background, race or immigration status. In making Howard County a Sanctuary County we are taking an important step to prioritize the safety, security and confidentiality of all residents regardless of nationality or citizenship.

Someone who has witnessed a serious accident, who is concerned about their legal status, or that of a family member can feel at risk to call for help or to report what they have witnessed. Sanctuary status could lower that risk, assisting all those affected. It could also empower a resident to seek protection for their child who is being bullied, increasing a wider sense of safety. Additionally, all parents should have the right to feel comfortable to advocate for their child's learning needs and ability to feel safe both at home and in school. When my now grown daughter, who is a marketing and development professional, experienced learning issues as a Howard County student I felt it important to advocate for her educational needs from time to time. It felt like a essential responsibility, as well as a right to support and advocate for my daughter, but I do not know if I could have done so if I thought there could be repercussions for anyone in my family due to a question about immigration status, religious beliefs or the color of our skin.

I stand for all residents of Howard County, and value the benefits of being a part of a diverse and inclusive community, therefore I stand in support of CB-9.

Respectfully,
Sandy Parlett

Sanctuary Cities Are Safe, Thanks to Conservatives



139 NOV 29, 2016 2:52 PM EST

By Noah Feldman

President-elect Donald Trump says he will make “sanctuary cities” help deport immigrants. The good news is that he and Congress can’t do it -- not without violating the Constitution.

Two core rules of federalism preclude Trump’s idea: The federal government can’t coerce states (or cities) into action with a financial “gun to the head,” according to Supreme Court precedent developed by Chief Justice John Roberts in the 2012 Affordable Care Act case. And federal officials can’t “commandeer” state officials to do their work for them under a 1997 decision that involved gun purchases under the Brady Act.

Behold the revenge of conservative federalism: Judge-made doctrines developed to protect states’ rights against progressive legislation can also be used to protect cities against Trump’s conservative policies. Ain’t constitutional law grand?

QUICKTAKE
Immigration Reform

As you may recall, Roberts’s landmark opinion in *NFIB v. Sebelius* both upheld Obamacare and gutted it at the same time. Roberts voted to uphold the individual insurance mandate as a permissible use of Congress’s power to tax. But he simultaneously struck down the Medicaid extension except insofar as states might choose it voluntarily.

The Printz decision struck down provisions of the Brady Act that required state and local law enforcement officials to do background checks of firearm purchasers. Scalia reasoned that the federal system separates state officials from the executive chain of command that covers federal employees. And he concluded that the constitutional system of federalism bars Congress from pressing state officials into service to execute federal laws.

That's exactly what Trump wants to make city officials do: cooperate in the enforcement of federal law. The Constitution makes immigration law the purview of federal, not state government.

That means it would be illegal commandeering to require state officials to enforce federal law. Checking immigration status is no different from doing a gun background check.

It's well worth noting that the gun-to-the-head doctrine and the anti-commandeering principle were both developed by conservative justices to thwart progressive results. But the beauty -- and the sting -- of constitutional law is that doctrines developed in one political setting can be deployed in another.

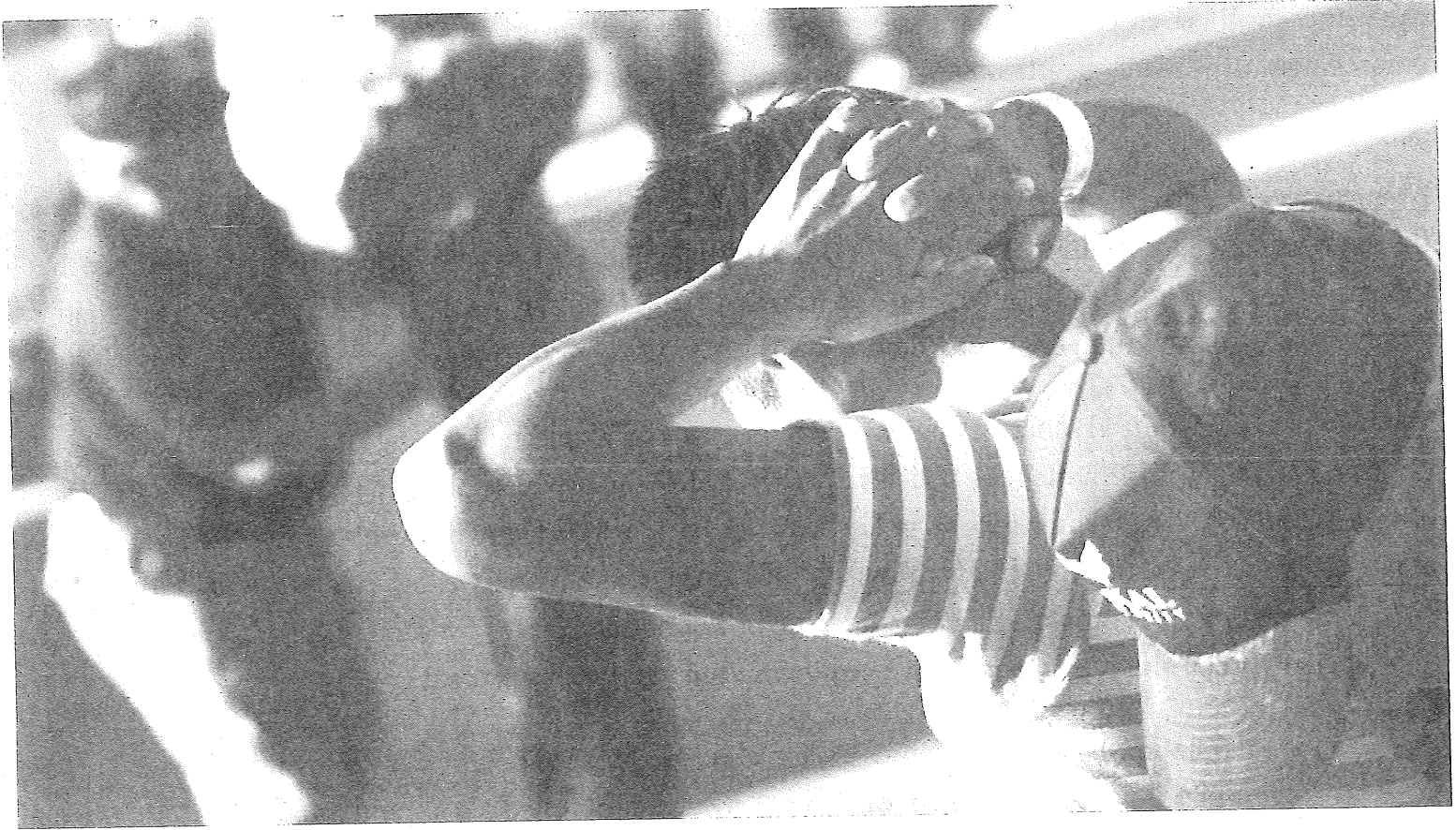
When Congress passes progressive laws like the ACA or the Brady Act, conservatives dissent using federalism arguments. Now, with a Republican Congress and president, it will be progressives' turn to rely on states' rights.

That isn't hypocrisy -- it's the natural progression of the law, which should apply neutrally, regardless of who's in power. What's good for the goose is good for the gander.

As I argued in a column that I wrote at 3 a.m. after the election, it's all about the Constitution now. The protection of sanctuary cities is an example of how the Constitution protects minority rights -- in this case the rights of cities that dissent on immigration policy.

1. *Article 1, Section 8, Clause 4, gives Congress power to establish a "uniform rule of naturalization."*

Sanctuary Cities Actually Make Us Safer



Undocumented Guatemalan immigrants are searched before boarding a deportation flight to Guatemala City at Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport in Arizona in June. The U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agency recently announced a set of adjustments to the "Secure Communities" program after many local communities and some states insisted on opting out, saying immigrants were being deported for minor offenses such as traffic violations. (Getty Images)

By RAULA A. REYES

SHARE THIS



Sanctuary cities increase safety by leaving immigration enforcement to the feds.

AUGUST 4, 2015

Before the July 4 weekend, a tragedy occurred in San Francisco. Kate Steinle, 32, was walking with her father on a busy pier when she was allegedly shot and killed by Juan Francisco Lopez-Sanchez, an undocumented immigrant from Mexico with a long rap sheet.

The randomness of this crime shocked the nation, and led to a renewed debate over so-called sanctuary cities like San Francisco. Several of the leading Republican candidates for president, including Donald Trump, Jeb

other non-sanctuary cities. Sanctuary cities make sense because they allow undocumented 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 funds from sanctuary cities.

Steinle's death was a horrific crime and her killer must be brought to justice. But we shouldn't let an emotional response to this crime blind us to the realities of the case. Steinle's death occurred because of a bureaucratic error; given his criminal history, Lopez-Sanchez should never have been released by San Francisco police.

Similarly, a Haitian immigrant in Connecticut allegedly fatally stabbed a woman when he should have already been deported. "If our federal agencies had been on top of this, my daughter would still be here with us," her mother told a Connecticut paper. But immigration authorities tried repeatedly to deport the alleged killer to Haiti. They were hampered by the fact that Haiti refused to accept him back — not by a sanctuary city policy.

So instead of scapegoating sanctuary cities, lawmakers should be taking steps to ensure better communication between federal and local law enforcement. Besides, we don't need more immigration enforcement (our government spends more on immigration enforcement than all other federal law enforcement agencies combined); we need smarter and better immigration enforcement. One step in the right direction is the recent news that the Obama administration will be focusing its immigration enforcement efforts on convicted felons, recent arrivals and security/terrorist threats.

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

Raul A. Reyes is an attorney and television commentator in New York City. A third-generation Mexican American, he writes frequently on issues affecting the Latino community. He wrote this for InsideSources.com.

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This article is related to: Immigration, Crime



January 18, 2017

CASA Testimony in Support of CB9

Councilman Weinstein and members of the Council,

CASA writes to express our strong support of Council Bill 9-2017, to make Howard County a Sanctuary County for Immigrants. As the state's largest immigrant rights organization, we represent over 11,000 members in Howard County, who are immigrants from dozens of countries that have chosen Howard County as their new home in the United States.

Many of our members have established strong roots in the county – raising their families here, starting businesses, and participating in daily civic activity in their communities. Council Bill 9 would be a strong step in recognition of all that they contribute to Howard County, and a demonstration of the values of inclusion, diversity, and civility that the county is known for across the state.

During this critical time in our country, CASA members are worried about what the future could hold for their families. Passage of CB 9 will reassure them that in a country where political winds are shifting, their local communities remain a place where all are welcome, where diversity is valued, and where local law enforcement are here to protect and serve, not to tear families apart.

As the council considers this critical issue, I urge you to consider the following answers to some of the questions raised in recent days, and am happy to provide any additional resources that may be helpful to you as you consider this legislation. Once again, on behalf of all of CASA's members in Howard County, we urge a favorable vote on Council Bill 9.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Alex
Regional Director
CASA

Howard County Council Bill 9: Questions and Answers

1) Do we have the authority to do this?

Yes. More than 400 jurisdictions¹, including 4 states and 364 counties, have enacted policies like this to protect their immigrant residents. The U.S. Constitution prohibits the federal government from mandating that local or state officials enforce a federal regulatory program² and this prohibition includes the enforcement of civil immigration violations – that responsibility rests solely and exclusively with the federal government.

2) Could we be in violation of state or federal laws (now or in the future)?

No. Bill No. 9-2017 contains explicit language which dictates that it shall not apply where it conflicts with state or federal law. In addition, the language provides a mechanism for the County to change any practices or provisions which preempt the law. These “savings clauses” effectively insulates the legislation from violating any provision of state or federal law.

The provisions of the proposed legislation are not in conflict with state or federal law, however. As discussed below, the federal government cannot mandate that state or local officials assist in the enforcement of federal immigration law. States and localities have wide latitude to enact policies which bind their employees, including prohibitions on inquiring about an individual’s immigration status.

The specific provision of Bill No. 9-2017 which protects the confidentiality of information about citizenship status (Section 12.2105) is limited by Section 12.2101(C)(1) which states that “[t]his subtitle does not prohibit disclosure of information regarding citizenship or immigration status if the disclosure is required or authorized by County, State, or *Federal* law...” (emphasis added). These confidentiality provisions are essential for ensuring the County residents feel safe and secure when interacting with County officials, including with law enforcement, and are in harmony with similar provisions enacted by other state and local governments across the United States.

3) Will our city/county suffer financial consequences by being labeled a "sanctuary" jurisdiction?

Likely Not. The same constitutional protections that prohibit the federal government from mandating that local officials assist in the enforcement of federal immigration law protects jurisdictions from financial coercion by the

¹ Jasmine C. Lee, Rudy Omri, and Julia Preston, “What Are Sanctuary Cities”, *New York Times*, September 3, 2016, https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/09/02/us/sanctuary-cities.html?_r=0

² *City of New York v. United States*, 971 F. Supp 789 (S.D.N.Y 1997)

federal government to accomplish the same end³. In 2012 the Supreme Court ruled in *National Federation of Independent Businesses v. Sebelius* that the federal government could not withdraw federal Medicaid funding from states due to their failure to expand Medicaid coverage under the Affordable Care Act, stating that such “... economic dragooning that leaves the States with no real option but to acquiesce..”⁴ violates the 10th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.

These protections are rooted in Constitutional principles⁵ and thus will apply equally in the Trump Administration⁶. The Supreme Court has held that “...if Congress intends to impose a condition on the grant of federal moneys, it must do so unambiguously.”⁷ The federal government is thus prohibiting from cutting off federal funding to localities for enacting pro-immigrant policies, unless the legislation authorizing such funding contained an explicit prohibition on such policies – which very few funding sources contain. Even where such a prohibition does exist, either in current law or future legislation, they are potentially subject to challenge under the Constitutional principles discussed above, which prohibit the federal government from coercing state and local officials to enforce federal law.

³ Erwin Chemerinsky, Annie Lai and Seth Davis, “Trump Can’t Force ‘Sanctuary Cities’ to Enforce His Deportation Plans”, *Washington Post*, December 22, 2016, https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2016/09/02/us/sanctuary-cities.html?_r=0

⁴ *Nat’l Fed’n of Indep. Bus. v. Sebelius*, 132 S. Ct. 2566 at 2574

⁵ *Printz v. United States*, 521 U.S. 898 at 933

⁶ Ilya Somin, “Federalism, the Constitution, and Sanctuary Cities,” *Washington Post*, November 26, 2016, https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/volokh-conspiracy/wp/2016/11/26/federalism-the-constitution-and-sanctuary-cities/?utm_term=.b99e4e8c44b1

⁷ *Pennhurst State School and Hospital v. Halderman*, 451 U.S. 1 at 17.

January 17, 2017

COUNCILMEMBERS

Jon Weinstein, Chairperson District 1

Calvin Ball, Vice Chairperson District 2

Jennifer Terrasa District 3

Mary Kay Sigaty District 4

Greg Fox District 5

Dear Council Members:

I am a 42-year old resident of Howard County and live in Clarksville. I want to thank Dr. Ball and Jen Terresa for sponsoring this bill. In the interest of full disclosure my wife is a member of Howard County Disability Commission and was appointed by Allan Kittleman and confirmed by this Council last year. Our son, who became paraplegic in an accident at the age of 17, knows how the walls closed in on him despite the fact he was born and raised in Howard County.

The law is equal opportunity but the fact is that discrimination exists in at least overt form and sometimes not in so overt form.

This bill will enable people of the "not right color" to have due process under the law. I urge you to follow the example of New York and California and to do what is right for the voiceless by approving the bill and by strengthening this bill. My wife could not be here today as she is attending a seminar of National Association of Mentally Ill, but she supports this bill.

Sincerely,



Shafqet ("Sam") Ashai

11906 Hall Shop Road

Clarksville, MD 21029

District 2 - Mary Kay Sigaty

Kinda Kangoga
5163 Endyrdon Lane
Columbia, MD 21049

Three minutes, not long enough. I came to support the intention of this bill as I fear for people living in a subculture detached from the civil liberties that America is known, loved and hated around the world for. I can see both sides of most arguments. Dad was trained as a lawyer and I was often his sparring partner.

1. My Dad was a D.P., A Displaced Person. A person without a country. In 1941 he was a medical student in college when the Nazi's annexed Yugoslavia and closed all medical schools. As a 20 year old he joined the underground to resist both Nazi and Communist forces. He ultimately was imprisoned in Mauthausen in Austria for his trouble, lost all his teeth due to malnutrition over the course of two years there, weighed 89 pounds when American forces discovered the camp in May 1945 and was told he might never walk again. Viktor Frankel in his book about finding meaning in life mentioned that prisoners in other camps hoped not to be sent to Mauthausen. My Dad told a neighbor that he refused to allow his Nazi captors to see his pain, because he believed to do so gave them power over him and he refused to give them that satisfaction. Years later when my little brother bought a used VW, my father had an outburst asking how my brother could disrespect him in such a way. Many don't remember that slave labor was used by Hitler's People's Wagon, VW. My Dad knew how to reupholster furniture. I always thought that was weird for a med and law student, but he didn't talk about it. Most of what I know about him came from stories my mother shared with me. From 1945 to 1952 my father began to rebuild a life, married, went to law school and had a son. Then Tito went on a witch hunt and my father was required to provide names of people with whom he fought in the underground during the war. My father said, "Tito threatened to take away his mother's heart medicine" if he did not comply. He provided a fake list and was arrested with the expected outcome to be his death. His mother, overcome with grief, committed suicide. Other family members were forbidden to move her body and my father was returned to personally arrange for her burial as part of his punishment and as an example to others. He escaped by hijacking a plane to Germany, the pilot being a friend of his, and he hid out in the German countryside for 6 months until he was permitted to go to Canada as a DP. The US quota for Yugoslavs had already been met when he applied that year. His family disowned him as they likely had to do to survive and he ultimately disowned them in return. I cannot imagine that this was easy. My Government professor at Mills said it might have been better for my father if he had never been born. His struggles give me sympathy for people who dream of a life in the USA. There is no way I can tell you his story here. There is so much more.
2. I am a Naturalized Citizen. I was born in Canada. My mother was an American by birth with Canadian roots that go back to a Huegenot sea captain who settled in Quebec in 1625. I came by train on Christmas Day in 1961. Someone tore up the immigration forms my mother had filled out for my brothers and I informing my mother that my little brothers and I had citizenship through her. In 1980, I was informed that according to the immigration law, my mother being born in 1928 would have had to attend grade school for 7 years for me to automatically be American and when they researched it, my mother only attended 3 and 1/2

years, so I did not qualify. The INS lawyer suggested I cross the border and reenter to apply as a new arrival. I was appalled. I was married to an American in the Army and had already voted, not knowing I was an undocumented alien. I had been waiting for over a year to be granted a passport and had well documented my life, my 3.8 GPA in high school, my years in girl scouts and as a choir member, my Math degree and marriage certificate. INS called saying they had lost my file and I would have to start over, adding years to the process. I offered to bring them copies of everything the following day and was told not to bother, they would locate the file. I was fortunate that my in-laws permitted me to live with them in SF as it allowed me to continue my original application for citizenship. If I had left the area, they could have dropped my file and I would have had to start over elsewhere.

3. My father never became a citizen although I believe it had been his dream. He died of heart failure while I was in college. He was happy to be a legal resident, able to soak in a hot bathtub and smoke a cigarette, luxuries that camp inmates dreamed about when they were able to sleep according to Victor Frankel's book. Dad entered the US legally after my grandmother brought my mother, my brothers and myself to California to live near my great aunt and her family. My mother had to establish residency for 6 months so that her husband, the DP, could join us legally. She worked for the Elks Lodge while I finished first grade. My parents both did a lot of volunteer work in addition to having many jobs while struggling to make ends meet. They were both hard working and demanded hard work of their children. I see both sides of the arguments for and against this bill as written and I am grateful for living in a country where this dialogue can take place out in the open in a public forum. I am grateful for the Howard County Police and the job they do enforcing the laws in and around my Harper's Choice neighborhood and village center. I worry for the women and children who are enticed to this country illegally and then trafficked. I am also sick with worry for those here legally and illegally who are afraid to contact police when they witness crimes for fear of reprisals, whether that be deportation or being hurt by those they know here, as I see that as escalating crime in our county and elsewhere. It is my hope that this process will find a middle ground and remind us all of us how very fortunate we are to live here, and how fortunate we are to be a beacon to the world. In my perfect world, there would be no undocumented aliens. My father would have been against this bill because he lived in constant fear of former Nazi's (refused better paying jobs in South American for this reason) and Communists("Do not go to Yugoslavia with your name Kangrga, they keep lists", he warned me.)

When Dr. King was assassinated Watts rioted and innocent businesses were burned. My father drove us on a family outing to the residential neighborhood of Watts. He told us that he wanted us to see what fear looked like. That was all he said. What I saw was a neighborhood that looked very much like mine except that there were no people walking along the sidewalks. There were no people or children on porches or in yards. There were not even any pets in fenced yards. Blinds and curtains were drawn and block after block looked like a ghost town. I am still learning the lesson he tried to teach me that day. That is why I am here.

Good evening Councilmembers, my name is Greg Dahle, I have been a Howard County resident for almost 50 years, currently residing in Ellicott City, District 1, and have worked in the county for 30 years. I am testifying this evening in **strong opposition** to the proposed CB9 legislation. I feel confident that once everyone's testimony and all **facts** are considered, by **all** council members regarding this bill, it should die by a majority vote in opposition. If it doesn't, it will most certainly be vetoed by our County Executive.

However, I still believe it important to express my views about how troubling it is that we currently have elected officials that would seriously consider proposing legislation that would label our great county as a "**Sanctuary County**" given there's absolutely no benefit to those you represent by doing so. We as law abiding, taxpaying, US Citizens gain nothing, but risk losing a lot.

Make no mistake, there has been a drastic increase in serious criminal activity, and a tremendous strain on resources, experienced by other municipalities throughout the country that have passed similar legislation. At the end of this week, we will have a new federal administration that could deny our county federal funding that might be needed to address a variety of serious issues we may encounter at any time, and some that might be **created** by, this proposed legislation. All very serious risks at least a couple of you seem to be willing to take simply for political posturing, pandering, and potential electoral advantage in future elections.

When I originally proposed, and Councilman Fox, and former Councilmember Courtney Watson, kindly cosponsored CB30-2011, an act allowing for a 100% property tax credit for all of our county's nonprofit 100% volunteer swim clubs, at a cost of about \$50K per year out of an overall budget of \$1.5B, despite multiple local municipalities having previously enacted this same legislation, this council previously enacting similar legislation, and the **zero nay** unanimously supported state enabling legislation allowing the county to do so; it was voted down by the same councilmembers co-sponsoring this legislation.

I find it very difficult to understand how they would now be willing to risk losing the \$1.2M that ICE alone annually contributes to the county's general fund, to help their constituents live safely. And that would be just the beginning as this new federal administration begins systematically, and deservingly, defunding all "sanctuary cities" throughout our great nation.

This proposed legislation puts an embarrassing beacon on our community encouraging those that commit illegal acts to flood into our communities. We **are** a nation of immigrants, but we are **also** a nation of laws, and those laws are meant to protect your tax paying constituents. You might not like the laws, and you can work with our congressional representatives to change the laws, but you cannot arbitrarily choose the laws you feel are worth following, while ignoring others. This is when societal order begins to fall apart.

The results of the most recent Presidential election have made it quite clear that most Americans have officially rejected the political ideology of borderless countries, as evident by the Democratic party losing countless offices, seats, and states, all over our great nation, for the past 8 years, including, most recently, our local County Executive position, Maryland State Governor, and Republicans now have the majority in the House, Senate, and now the Presidency. So please, keep this up, I'm quite sure Councilman Fox is looking forward to more Republicans joining him on the council as your seats are up for re-election.

Howard County CB9 Testimony

Patricia Hatch, Oakland Mills Village, Columbia MD 21045 (443) 604-5394

Over the past nearly 40 years I have had the privilege of working closely with literally hundreds, if not thousands, of immigrants in Howard County. The vast majority of those with whom I have worked have been legal permanent residents or persons to whom the US has granted refugee status. I have great respect for the difficult journey they have endured and considerable patience they have demonstrated in entering the US through our lengthy immigration processes.

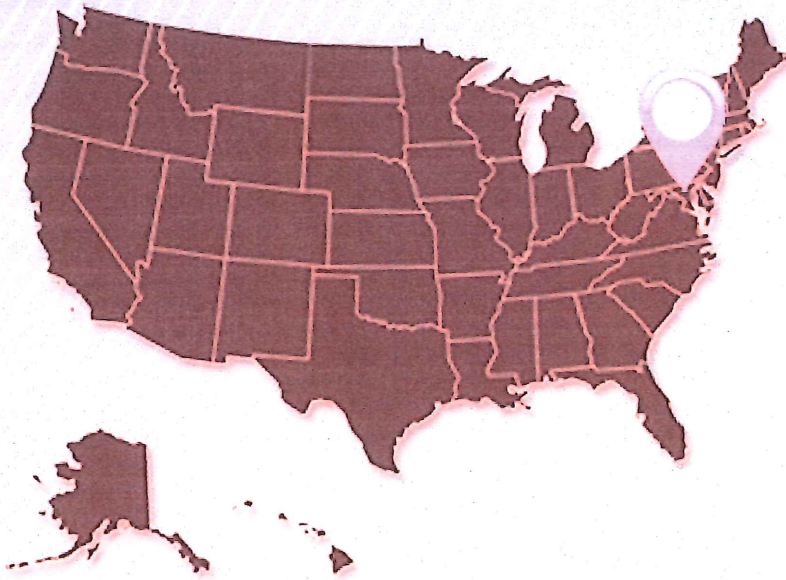
When I first started working with immigrants, I thought that any person who had not entered the US legally ought to be ejected summarily from the US. But then I started to meet real people who were undocumented, and as I heard each of their stories, I realized that for many, there was absolutely no legal pathway to the US, and yet, in many cases, no way to remain in their homeland safely, or to provide for their families if they stayed. I started to imagine myself in their shoes, and began to realize that had I been born in their circumstances, I might very well have made the same choice that they did.

Our immigration laws are seriously broken. Picture a road between two cities – Let's say Route 70. At one time, two lanes may have been sufficient. But then the population of both Baltimore and Frederick increased. Imagine what would have happened if the state highway administration had not added lanes. Imagine the chaos that would ensue, with people driving on the shoulders or median! It is similar with US immigration law. At one point our process was orderly and the visas available met the need with reasonable wait periods. But these days, a person wanting to sponsor their spouse or minor children can face waits of between 4 and 14 years before they will be legally admitted. Stressed by long family separation, many have eventually "driven on the shoulders" to reunite, and are now present without authorization.

About 66% of undocumented immigrants have been in the US for at least a decade. There are at least four million US-born US citizen children living in mixed-status households – households where at least one parent is undocumented. There are hundreds of such families in Howard County. Perhaps one of those children is your own child or grandchild's good friend – and they may be severely anxious that tonight or tomorrow mom or dad will be taken into custody and removed. Many undocumented persons have started their own businesses in order to survive in the US. Perhaps your lawn care person? Or babysitter? The cook or wait staff at your favorite restaurant? The unseen persons who clean your office building, your doctor's office? Or the home care companion for your elderly relative, making it possible for them to remain in their home rather than a nursing facility?

It is my sincere hope that Congress will soon update our broken immigration system, and that one element of that would be a program of earned legalization – similar to that under President Reagan. But until such time, I believe that local legislation of this nature can at least offer assurance to the undocumented persons who are already a part of the fabric of our county that, in these uncertain times, they will continue to be treated with dignity and respect by County employees, regardless of their immigration status.

NEW AMERICANS IN MARYLAND



COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Maryland is home to **842,250 immigrants.**

14.2% of Marylanders are foreign-born.

15% of Marylanders are Latino or Asian.

ENTREPRENEURS

20.9% of all business owners in Maryland are foreign-born.

\$2.8 BILLION in total net business income is generated by immigrant businesses in Maryland.

VOTERS

49.9% of immigrants in Maryland are naturalized U.S. Citizens and are potential voters.

PARENTS

87.1% of children with immigrant parents in Maryland are U.S. Citizens.

87.1% of children with immigrant parents in Maryland are considered English proficient.

ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTORS

- ➔ Latinos and Asians in Maryland have purchasing power of **\$34.2 BILLION.**
- ➔ Undocumented immigrants pay **\$293.8 MILLION** in Maryland state and local taxes.
- ➔ Maryland would lose **\$15.3 BILLION** in economic activity, **\$6.8 BILLION** in gross state product, and approximately **73,267 JOBS** if all undocumented immigrants were removed.

Howard County Council Legislative Public Hearing

17 January 2017

Testimony in support of CB-9

Jennifer E. Scott, Ph.D.

3792 Plum Spring Ln., Ellicott City

Good evening and thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Jennifer Scott. I live in Ellicott City, in Jon Weinstein's district. I've been a resident of this county for 13 years. I prize the diversity and inclusiveness of my community, and I think supporting CB-9 is the right thing to do.

I wrote emails and called in support of this bill, but it is the testimony of brilliant and inspiring DACA students, both here in Howard County and from Towson University, where I am a professor of physics and astronomy, that has especially moved me to testify in favor of CB-9 tonight. Our country is stronger because of the contributions of so many scientists who came here from elsewhere, including the forebears of Benjamin Banneker himself, including Albert Einstein, including many of my Towson colleagues, some of whom live in Howard County as I do.

I am alarmed at the rhetoric of our President-elect and those with whom he surrounds himself. I am disappointed by the level of anger and mistrust in the public discourse over this bill on the part of those who oppose it. I am troubled by the recent hateful speech and vandalism in

our public schools and parks.¹ These all show why codifying current practices in law through CB-9 is not only just but also necessary. Those who claim there is no purpose for this legislation use their cultural privilege to erase the experiences of those for whom this matters enormously.

Other opponents of this bill make exactly the opposite argument: that this legislation would have dramatic effects by increasing crime or threatening federal funding to our county.

This bill will not interfere with the prosecution of real crime in our county, and fears about increased crime are not supported by the experiences of other sanctuary cities.² I'll point to the unassailable logic in the arguments that others have made that if all people in our county feel protected in coming forward to cooperate with authorities if they are witness to or victims of a crime, if they are confident this will not threaten their livelihood and their families, we are all safer.

Second, President-elect Trump's threats to pull federal funding from jurisdictions that enact sanctuary policies are misguided. According to

¹ <http://www.abc2news.com/news/region/howard-county/man-charged-with-a-hate-crime-in-swastika-vandalism>

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/education/ph-ho-cf-racist-video-students-0204-20160130-story.html>

<http://patch.com/maryland/columbia/superintendent-county-executive-ask-hoco-choose-civility-after-election>

² <http://www.politifact.com/truth-o-meter/statements/2016/nov/28/javier-m-gonzales/santa-fe-mayor-defends-sanctuary-cities-says-studi/>

Noah Feldman, a professor of constitutional and international law at Harvard University³:

“The federal government can’t coerce states (or cities) into action with a financial ‘gun to the head,’ according to Supreme Court precedent developed by Chief Justice John Roberts in the 2012 Affordable Care Act case⁴. “

Furthermore, as others have stated, we in Howard County do not put a price tag on our values.

Howard County officials of fifty years ago resisted efforts to desegregate the Howard County schools, years after it was mandated by the Supreme Court’s ruling in *Brown vs. Board of Education*. It wasn’t popular but it was right. Those officials may have been good and honest people in every other aspect of their lives, but their apathy, their fear or their lack of knowledge about and empathy for their neighbors made them wrong, while the bravery of others like Robert Kittleman put *them* on the right side of history.⁵

I say this because it isn’t easy to see in the tide of current events, but I believe we are now at a similar crossroads in our communities and in our country. How will we in Howard County treat the strangers in our

³ <https://www.bloomberg.com/view/articles/2016-11-29/sanctuary-cities-are-safe-thanks-to-conservatives>

⁴ *NFIB vs. Sebelius*

⁵ <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/howard/ellicott-city/ph-ho-cf-desegregation-schools-anniversary-0924-20150922-story.html>

midst, many of whom are not strangers at all but our friends and neighbors, our students, our clients and customers?

Others have quoted from their faith traditions and so I will close by doing the same. In the Gospel of Matthew, in his parable about the people who fed and clothed the stranger, Jesus says "Truly I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40 RSV) So for me, the question "What Would Jesus Do?" is answered. And he didn't ask for papers.

What we do to stand for our values here in this county will be judged by history. So I ask you to stand with all of our neighbors without regard to their immigration status and support CB-9. Thank you.

To: Honorable County Council Members of Howard County

From: Victor McGonegal, 7905, Helmart Drive, Laurel, Howard County, MD 20723

Date: January 18, 2017

As a thirty+ year resident of Howard County, I've enjoyed its many benefits in those years. I've always had confidence in HC government leaders to provide basic services, secure and stable environment and to be responsive to their constituents. But that confidence is eroding: Specifically the proposed **CB9 -2017** bill is an absurdity. I oppose the bill for the following reasons.

Briefly

- First the Council's crafting of the bill conflicts directly with their recent oath to support the laws and Constitutions of the United States and Maryland.
- To harbor, support undocumented immigrants will impact County welfare costs
- It's unfair to legally-documented immigrants, waiting in line for years hoping to attain the benefits of U.S. citizenship only to be usurped by the undocumented immigrant.
- Increase the likelihood of illegal voter registration.
- I believe it's immoral, untenable to expose HC employees to potential legal or political actions by compelling them to ignore superseding State or Federal laws and regulations.
- HC could be flooded with homeless undocumented immigrants, e.g., San Francisco.
Does HC provide housing? At who's expense?
- Possible creation of crime ridden "No Go" zones where victims fear retaliation of criminals, and where police are reluctant to enter.

- Finally, the tone and characterizations in Bill No. 9 -2017 betrays the ideological and political bias of its authors; and to use derogatory invectives insult the integrity and character of a third of Howard County Voters. Pejorative attacks are vindictive and immature rationalizations. [i.e., "President-Elect Trump...hate...xenophobic, Islamophobic, and racist sentiments..."].

It's been said, that avid proponents are on the wrong side of history. Maybe.
But Trump and the duly elected congress will stop the flow of funds to "sanctuaries."
Agree or not, the American electorate has spoken.

If you object to the electoral process that elected them then change it through constitutionally means, not rioting at the Capitol Steps.

The "Sanctuary" beacon is NOT a shining light on the hill: it's a path leading into darkness.

Testimony in Opposition to Howard County CB9 2017 (Ball, Terrasa) on January 17, 2017

Benjamin T. Johnson, Ph.D.
10201 Breconshire Rd. Ellicott City, MD 21042

I rise in opposition of CB9, an ACT designed to extend Howard County Code, Title 12 – Health and Social Services by adding Subtitle 21: Rights of Non-US Citizens.

I have three primary points of opposition.

The first point is general in that an undocumented person residing in the United States is in violation of federal law, regardless of whether it was an overstayed visa or those who entered without permission. Any jurisdiction that attempts to interfere with federal law is subject to possible loss of federal funding for being non-compliant. I cannot support legislation that encourages continued violation of federal laws – it is patently unjust, particularly for those people who are legal immigrants to the United States.

The second point comes from the use of the term “sanctuary” in the preamble of this bill. The term “Sanctuary” here has a fairly broad range of meaning and application. In this particular case, the bill provides almost no protection for undocumented immigrants, and doesn’t rise to the level of sanctuary provided by other counties / jurisdictions. This bill has two key effects (1) to make undocumented people feel safe in communicating with county officials without fear of being reported to federal authorities. (2) As such, this bill effectively becomes a “don’t ask don’t tell policy” – if a county official learns of a person’s undocumented status, they will still be compelled by law to report that person to federal authorities.

Unfortunately, many undocumented people will not fully understand the limitations of CB9, and some will be enticed to move to Howard County under false hopes of sanctuary -- adding to the already 250,000+ illegal immigrants living in the state (Pew Research Center, 2012).

The third point is regarding the socio-economic impact of this bill, should it become law. Proponents of the bill would point to the harmlessness of it, and that it’s simply “a political statement”. My concern is that by enacting harmless legislation enables future, substantial legislation to be built upon it, with potentially more severe impact to the residents of Howard County. Additionally, the influx of undocumented people seeking sanctuary will bring increased costs to the county, such as infrastructure, education, medical, and law enforcement, to name a few. These costs will continue to be subsidized by tax paying, legal residents of the county.

I’m fully supportive of inclusiveness, diversity, and preservation of the rights of all people to the extent allowable by law. However, I simply do not believe the county should risk additional tax payer burdens and the potential loss of federal funding by harboring increasing numbers of undocumented people regardless of their gender, age, race, religion, and nation of origin.

Sincerely,

Benjamin T. Johnson

Testimony for CB9-2017
January 17, 2017

My name is Chris Krupiarz and I am a resident of Ellicott City.

In October of last year, police in Wyoming, Michigan arrested Raul Perez for murder. An undocumented immigrant, he had been twice deported and charged with other crimes.

I mention this event because it, and others like it in California and Kansas, impacted my immediate reaction to this bill.

I have a couple of kids at home. I want them to be safe.

To alleviate some of this concern, I request the Council consider an amendment to the bill. This revision would add flexibility for law enforcement to contact immigration authorities in cases of repeat violent offenders. In the aftermath the terrible killing of Kate Steinle, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors implemented a similar revision to their sanctuary policy. There is potential to learn from their experience.

That said, safety must sometimes be balanced against ideals. We should never forget tragedies such as what happened in Michigan or Kansas or California. But we should also remember there is another side of humanity: our common rights that know no borders.

Thus far I have focused on the very few, if any, that may cause strife, but what we cannot miss seeing is the vast majority of undocumented immigrants for who they are.

They are people escaping conditions I would never want for my two boys.

They are people who have found no choice but to uproot their lives and put themselves at the mercy of others.

They are people who are simply seeking what I, and many of us here today, were lucky enough to be born with: the human right of freedom

from oppression and the opportunity to live, study, and work in a welcoming community.

These brothers and sisters of our global family have become members of our local family. Let's treat them as such.

Last fall, I read an essay written by Jason Motlagh entitled "A Terrifying Journey Through the World's Most Dangerous Jungle." This piece tells the story of the Darién Gap between Colombia and Panama, a jungle passageway for many migrants. Mr. Motlagh writes:

"Some ugly myths have taken root in the United States that these people are predisposed to be criminals, a dormant threat to our national security and a gathering drag on our economy...Yet, somehow people of all stripes keep angling for our faraway borders with their dreams intact, risks and distances be damned.

Maybe they will be spared the onerous jungle crossing; maybe they will get a berth on an airlift; or maybe they are bushwhacking a new route through the darkness of Darién Gap at this very moment, their feet and gazes in lockstep forward against the inertia of fear and cynicism, driven by visions of something better.

They are our past, our present, and our future.

And they are worthy."

1-18-2017

Testimony

John Rice

Elkridge, Maryland 21075

I have been a lifelong Howard County resident. I consider Howard County one of the best counties in our country and one of the most accepting counties to all immigrants. All of the people testifying last night in favor of the bill are hard working, law abiding citizens or undocumented immigrants thriving to become America Citizens no different then many of the families in our country.

- I am strongly against this bill because the problem with this bill - is that it encourages and attracts illegal immigrants that intend to do harm and perform illegal activities to the citizens of Howard county - that is why this bill is so wrong.

What's really the ultimate Purpose of this bill?

- Is it Politically motivated,
- is it to protect illegal immigrants or
- is it to protect the citizens of Howard County.

I believe the main purpose was political motivation. Ball and Terrasa were upset by the election results and decided to write this bill out of spite. The one lady that mentioned waiting 90 days for a cooling off period made an excellent suggestion. Also,

rumor has it -that Mr Ball might be running for County Executive in 2018 and planning on trying to capitalize on the 60% of the vote that Hillary Clinton received in Howard County. If this is true and he decides to run for county Executive then this bill would be a self-serving and not in the best interest of Howard County Residents.

- This bill feels like a No Snitchin Bill because it's like lets not work with or assist Federal Authorities in enforcing Immigration law because we don't have to. Is that right
- If for some crazy reason that this bill passes and a situation arises in Howard County like what happened in San Francisco with Kate Steinle - Are you prepared to accept responsibility of a bill that has your signature on it that might have contributed to the potential death of a person. .
- Mrs Terrasa you were questioning Police Chief Gardner last night in regards to if he had spoken to any other police chiefs of sanctuary counties to see what they have seen in regards to the crime rate. Well, I just went home and googled MS13 in Montgomery County and what comes up first. July17, 2016 "Members of the MS-13 street gang enlist a 19 yr old woman to lure another teenager in a darkened Montgomery County park, where he was stabbed more than 40 times, according to police accounts of the county's 10th gang-related killing in past 10 Months." This might help you out in regards to how's it going in other counties.

This bill was not intended to protect the Citizens of Howard County but was a political move and knee jerk reaction against our president elect Donald Trump. When you vote on this bill please disregard your party affiliation and vote on whether or not this bill is going to protect the citizens of Howard County. Let your conscious make your decision when you vote on this bill.

Thank you County Council Members for giving me the opportunity to speak.

Local

A Maryland teen, lured to the woods and stabbed 40 times, becomes latest victim of gang-related killings

By Dan Morse July 7, 2016

Members of the MS-13 street gang enlisted a 19-year-old woman to lure another teenager into a darkened Montgomery County park, where he was stabbed more than 40 times, according to police accounts of the county's 10th gang-related killing in the past 10 months.

The accounts, filed this week in Montgomery District Court, underscored the horror of the slaying, with at least three assailant — one of them just 16 — who either held down the victim or repeatedly stabbed him.

"We really are seeing an unprecedented level of gang-related homicides," said Capt. Paul Liquorie, director of the Montgomery Police Department's Special Investigations Division.

In one of the suspected MS-13 killings last year in the county, assailants allegedly threw heavy rocks down on a victim as he crawled away from an attack toward a stream, according to court records. In another, the victim was told, "Get on your knees," before being shot in the face, neck and shoulder while in the woods.

In the June 16 death of Cristian Antonio Villagran-Morales, 18, in Malcolm King Park in Gaithersburg, police said the 19-year-old, Vanesa Alvarado, used the promise of sex to entice Villagran-Morales into the park.

Once they arrived, MS-13 members came up to Alvarado and Villagran-Morales and asked him whether he wanted to go into the woods to smoke marijuana, police said.

"Unfortunately, Cristian made the decision to go into the woods with them. He did not come out of those woods," Capt. Darr Francke, Montgomery's major crimes commander, said Thursday.

MS-13 Gang Violence Reemerges in Montgomery County

County members of the Salvadoran gang have been linked to murders in the region

BY ANDREW METCALF



VIA MONTGOMERY COUNTY POLICE

Montgomery County law enforcement officials are concerned the murder of a Gaithersburg man in Montgomery Village earlier this month and other recent violence may be a sign that the MS-13 gang is rebuilding in the area.

The murder led to the arrests of three county teens and warnings from Montgomery County State's Attorney John McCarthy that the violent El Salvador-based gang may be recruiting again.

"It's pretty evident based on the intelligence I'm being provided, that they are attempting to reestablish a toehold in the metropolitan area and specifically back here in Montgomery County," McCarthy told NBC4 last week.

The gang arrived in the Washington, D.C.-area in the 1990s and spread to Silver Spring, Wheaton and the Langley Park area of Prince George's County in the 2000s, according to a 2009 legislative report on gangs in Maryland.

In the early 2000s the gang was targeted as part of a concerted effort by local law enforcement to jail leaders and members, but *The Washington Post* reports police believe the latest violence may be part of "MS-13's drive to renew itself."

Prosecutors said the three teens suspected in the Nov. 1 murder of 22-year-old Roberto Gutierrez Cruz killed him execution-style and left him in the woods off of Contour Road. The suspects were identified as Luis Avelar Morales, 17, Daniel Adonai Ramos, 19, and Juan Espinal Rapalo, 18—all from the Gaithersburg area.

One of the suspects was reportedly arrested as he walked out of Gaithersburg High School, according to WAMU 88.5. County police said the murder of Cruz was carried out because he was believed to be a member of a rival gang.

The Washington Post reports MS-13 members have been arrested in other recent murder cases in Virginia including that of a 17-year-old gunned down in Sterling in September and that of a man whose body showed signs of trauma when it was found

Testimony Against Making Howard County a Sanctuary County in Maryland

Testimony Against CB 9- 2017 of Howard County, Maryland

Writer

Dr. Brenda Stewart
(Howard County Farm Resident 45 years)

TWO MAJOR REASONS AGAINST MAKING HOWARD COUNTY A SANCTUARY COUNTY

1. Risk Loosing Federal funding money to fund Loans, Grants, Contracts, Emergencies, Education, Research, Small Business Support, and Public Health.

- Comments: - Universities face loss of funding if declared a sanctuary campus.
- Counties and cities that adopt immigrant-friendly policies run the risk of losing funding or face other federal sanctions.
Howard County this year received federal funding dollars of \$1,613,136 to fund organizations that help crime victims in our county.
Ellicott City after the disastrous flooding of the City.
Howard County received \$7.7 million dollars in federal funding to help restore and rebuild
- Howard County Department of Fire & Rescue Services announced in 2016 that it was awarded \$201,524 in a federal grant money given by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
-Howard County can't afford to loose federal funding by trying to predict what the funding priorities of the incoming FEDERAL Administration will be towards a sanctuary county. Trying to quickly pass local policy decisions at making Howard County a Sanctuary County could result in yanking federal funding to Howard County. This could paralyze every aspect of economic growth and funding upon citizens that live in Howard and their educational opportunities.
-Can anyone assure the citizens of Howard County that they will receive at least the same amount of federal funding than before becoming a sanctuary county? If not, what is the "rush" in trying to pass this bill before we know how it will impact our financial standing with federal support? Why not table this bill for now?

2. Creating Local Sanctuary Counties Conflicts with Federal Law.

- Comments: Howard County and other local governments don't set the nation's Immigration policies, the Federal Government does.
-Federal law out ranks county law when it comes to illegal status.
- Making a county a sanctuary can be interpreted as a matter of civil disobedience by those that attempt to over step and contradict federal laws.
- Those that urge such illegal practices may possibly be jeopardizing their own credibility as well as compromise their leadership status in the community when federal action is applied.
- Local governments cannot pick and chose to follow some federal laws and ignore others.
- By Federal law, state and local governments are required to cooperate with the immigration laws and policies of the Federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr Brenda Stewart drsjbstewart@AOL.com 410 442-2471
2752 Daisy Road
Woodbine, MD 21797-8124

Good Evening Chairperson and members of the County Council. I am here to share my testimony in support of CB9-2017.

My name is Razia Kosi and I live in the Taylor Village neighborhood of Ellicott City. I am an immigrant who was brought to this country when I was two years old with my parents. My father came to the U.S. to earn his Masters in Engineering. He worked in this profession and owned several businesses until he retired last year and the age of 77. I have lived in Maryland since I was three.

When I was in the 1st grade and attending an elementary school in a neighboring county, the assistant principal pulled me from class and asked if I had a Green Card. I had no idea what a Green card was, and answered "I didn't know what that was." He then asked me if my parents had a Green Card.

This time I became more scared and I said what most kids do when they think are in trouble, "I don't know what it is, but I don't think we do?" He sent me back to class, but I could not concentrate the rest of the day. When I went home that evening, I told my Dad what happened. My dad became angry with the answer I gave. He pulled me over to his desk and showed me our Green Cards, and said if I was ever asked that question again, then I was to answer "yes."

I didn't understand what all of this meant, what that little piece of paper, which wasn't even green, meant to the assistant principal, my family or to me, but I do remember seeing the fear on my Dad's face and how his fear turned to anger towards me in order to make sure I understood we were at risk.... Because of a piece of paper.

This was over 40 years ago, but the fear, driving both sides of this issue are still relevant today. Some of the students, who spoke earlier attended the same schools as my own daughters. I know the stress students are under to be academically successful. The fear of deportation, not feeling safe in your own school, the destructive stereotypes of criminalizing immigrants because of documentation status are not conducive to a healthy learning environment.

Our children should not live in fear of coming to school, of being separated from their families or being sent back to a country that they left as small children. These students could be our future doctors, such as Dr. Quinones, a neurosurgeon at Johns Hopkins who was undocumented. All children deserve the opportunity to excel and give back to the community.

Much of the opposition has used the argument of "law and order" and not wanting to go against the law. The only reason my father was able to come to this country was because an unjust law limiting immigration from Asian and African countries and giving preference to immigrants Northern and Western European countries was abolished with the Immigration Act of 1965.

I went to the National Museum of African American History on Dr. Kings birthday on Monday and was once again reminded that laws are made to serve the ones in power. They only change when enough people who are currently well-served by the current law demand change for the benefit of humanity. Treating people in our county with dignity, friendship, and safety is at the core of our community and as a naturalized citizen of this country, a 22- year resident of this county and a parent, I support this bill and I urge each of you to support this bill as well.

Dear County Council Members:

My name is Hongling Zhou. I am a Statistician and my husband is a Software Engineer. We have been Howard county residents for 18 years. We are the hard-working taxpayers that are the backbones of this County's revenue source. I am here to express my strong opposition to CB9.

I am an immigrant from China. I became a proud U.S. citizen after 14 years waiting in line. I heard Dr. Ball on Radio saying that CB9 is intended to address concerns of foreign born residents in Howard County. I would like to tell you that this bill not only does not address any of my concerns but also created feelings of uncertainty and anxiety among many people around me.

I personally know a few undocumented immigrants. My husband and I have given materialistic and logistical help to these families. One lady in particular connected with me on personal level. She cares deeply about her children's education and the topic often appears in our conversations. I respect her for that. I informed her that the public school has pre-K program made available first to students with disadvantaged economic status and helped her to enroll her then 4 year old daughter in the program. Through this experience, I observed what these families really need are social, health and educational services, which CB9 fails to mention. And Howard County has already made these benefits and resources available for undocumented residents.

While I agree we, the Howard County residents, should be willing to share our good fortune with the poor and the needy from the world whenever we can as individuals, I take issue with government charity forced upon taxpayers. James Madison once said, "Charity is no part of the legislative duty of the government." If this bill is enacted, it will in effect become an advertisement for more and more undocumented immigrants to come to our county, given our excellent public school systems. Can we really afford the increased cost associated with such seemingly moral high ground? Montgomery County as a Sanctuary Jurisdiction had a property tax hike of 8.7% this year. Does Howard County want to follow the suit? Mr. Weinstein, do you want to be the person who breaks the news to us in, say 2019, after your re-election? It is exceedingly unfair to force the cost of such government charity upon the loyal income and property taxpayers who contribute to the county's revenue.

I urge you to vote against this bill!

Sincerely,

Hongling Zhou
7065 River Oak Court
Clarksville, MD 21029

Against CB9

Nancy Shih, CPA
4500 Cornflower Court
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Email: iping_shih@yahoo.com
Tel: 443-283-2375

Tonight I come here as a Christian with faith in Christ. I am also here as a friend to the undocumented immigrants and those who have Muslim faith.

I would like to tell these people that I love you and I want to embrace you and accept you totally as who you are and as precious human beings.

To the undocumented immigrants and your children, I would like to say: I heard your cry. I am with you. I understand your strife and struggle that you've been thru.

However, I want to tell you that CB9 cannot and will not offer you shield of protection from the act of prejudice or bias as you said you have experienced in the community. NO LAWS CAN. Prejudice is a symptom of a root problem. That is the sinful nature of human beings. A heart problem can only be fixed by being transformed and renewed in the heart by the power of the Gospel. And that is the pastors' job! That's the church's and charitable organizations' job to light the community by showing real actions of love to these people who live as our neighbors, and to influence the society with culture and atmosphere of kindness. This was what Jesus did on earth to reach out to the weak and the needed. CB-9 cannot correct people's heart problems.

The wrong kind of compassion, while using public funding instead of individual and organization funding, that put the majority's public safety, quality of life and education in jeopardy, is not true compassion. It is hypocrisy. *Policeman life matters too!*

While officially being labeled as Sanctuary County, CB9 will inevitably lure a steady influx of new incoming undocumented immigrants including gangsters from neighboring Counties. The existing undocumented immigrants will actually be victimized instead of being benefited.

This Bill's hollow content will do little to help these people. Only the collaborative effort of every individual and organization in the community, combined with the spirit of understanding and compassion can bring about genuine acceptance, comfort and peace for them. I am against CB9 and I urge the Council to postpone your vote till after 60 days of the Hearing.

Good Evening Council Members. I am Jen Nussbaum and live at 8759 Stonehouse Drive Ellicott City, MD

In my view the current proposal to pass Council Bill 9 is not in the best interests of Howard County residents.

The Council was elected by the citizens to act on behalf of their best interests and this Bill is at odds with that duty. The Members who have proposed this legislation are acting on emotion, or worse, are playing politics with our County's future.

I have a couple of simple questions for the Members:

1. How does CB 9 serve the best interests of Howard County citizens? Will the passage of CB9 improve our public transportation, our schools, our social services or our public safety? Will it improve our neighborhoods? Will it increase our income or property tax base?

If the answer to these questions are no, the then converse is likely true. Therefore, the bill is not in the best interests of Howard County citizens.

2. Will the passage of CB 9 place Howard County at odds with the Federal Government and put the County at risk of losing Federal funding for non-compliance or increasing County expenses fighting the Federal government ?

If the answer to this question is yes, then the Bill is not in the best interests of Howard County citizens.

So, how would this one particular resident react if this bill passed? For more than 20 years I have lived, raised my kids, worked, operated a business and invested in Howard County.

Well the answer is that I would leave Howard County. Yes. I would be compelled to leave. And unlike the Hollywood actors who say they are leaving the US but don't...I would.

Howard County will lose a homeowner, an employer, a real estate business owner, and a quality income and real estate tax payer.

It is only a 15 minute ride up route 32 to Carroll County and a 20 minute ride the other way to Anne Arundel. Competition is great and these Counties will have a field day competing against Howard in the future.

Montgomery County made this mistake -- Howard should not.

The great thing about America is that you can vote with your feet! If this Bill passes you can count on one thing for sure... You will be choosing to replace tax paying, law abiding citizens like my family and me, with illegal immigrants. The only sensible reason for your position is that illegal immigrants must make better residents for Howard County than legal citizens of the United States.

However, if CB 9 were to pass and you wanted to make an effort to keep me in the County, then please pass my proposed CB 10 which would provide sanctuary status for "illegal residents" and allow County property owners to not pay their property taxes without consequences under the "illegal resident" protections it would afford. I will then become an "Illegal Resident".

And, if you find my CB 10 outlandish, then you will clearly understand how I find your CB 9.

Read into testimony for Paul Sabella,
Howard County citizen, residential and commercial property owner, business owner and taxpayer
Columbia, MD

Testimony of Theodore F Mariani Re HC Bill CB 9 Sanctuary County

The underlying facts in his matter are clear and can be briefly stated.

When a person enters this country illegally or overstays a visa they are breaking the law. Further as non citizens they do not have recourse to the rights that convey thru citizenship.

I believe it is beyond your legal competence to mandate that public servants not observe and enforce Federal law or to grant legal rights to those who under law are not entitled to them.

The US Supreme Court has repeatedly held that state laws and policies are preempted when they conflict with federal law, as well as when they stand as an obstacle to the accomplishment and execution of the full purposes and objectives of Congress. The governing federal law can be found at 8 US Code - 1373 which prohibits policies that impede cooperation between federal, state and local officials when it involves the sending, requesting, maintaining or exchanging of information regarding immigration status. (See Attached excerpt from 8 US Code 1373)

In addition, the Supreme Court in *De Canas vs Bica* held that any state law or policy related to immigration will be preempted per se if it is a regulation concerning immigration because the "power to regulate immigration is unquestionably exclusively a federal power". Thus by Federal law and through affirmation by the Supreme Court, state and local governments are required to cooperate with the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency in carrying out its responsibilities under the immigration laws.

Being opposed to this proposed Bill does not in any way mean that one is embracing prejudice, bigotry, or hate as your preamble implies. A clear majority of Americans have spoken in support of enforcing our immigration laws, but the justification for this Bill seems to label them as xenophobic and racist.

As the son of an immigrant who came to this country legally, served four years in the US Army and was extremely proud to have earned his hard won citizenship, I am well aware of the blessings that this great Country offers.

As a consequence our family, descendants of immigrants, has over the years extended a helping hand, providing shelter and financial support, to many who have fled war torn Europe seeking refuge in America. These efforts which were voluntary, personal and legal began in the late 1930's with the rise of Fascism and continued through the cold war and the Communist take over of eastern Europe.

Compassion for ones fellow man does not however require the abandonment of the rule of law. If the United States were to change its immigration policy through an Act of Congress we should all, as faithful citizens, respect and abide by that decision. Until then the federal laws are paramount and must be observed, both de jure and de facto, in their intent.

This proposed Bill is unnecessary, unwise, and an insult to those citizens of this county, the state and the nation. who believe in the rational and full application of our current legally enacted immigration laws.

I respectfully request that this harmful and divisive legislation be rejected.

§1373. Communication between government agencies and the Immigration and Naturalization Service

(a) In general

Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State, or local law, a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from sending to, or receiving from, the Immigration and Naturalization Service information regarding the citizenship or immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual.

(b) Additional authority of government entities

Notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State, or local law, no person or agency may prohibit, or in any way restrict, a Federal, State, or local government entity from doing any of the following with respect to information regarding the immigration status, lawful or unlawful, of any individual:

- (1) Sending such information to, or requesting or receiving such information from, the Immigration and Naturalization Service.
- (2) Maintaining such information.
- (3) Exchanging such information with any other Federal, State, or local government entity.

(c) Obligation to respond to inquiries

The Immigration and Naturalization Service shall respond to an inquiry by a Federal, State, or local government agency, seeking to verify or ascertain the citizenship or immigration status of any individual within the jurisdiction of the agency for any purpose authorized by law, by providing the requested verification or status information.

(Pub. L. 104-208, div. C, title VI, §642, Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-707.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, and also as part of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997, and not as part of the Immigration and Nationality Act which comprises this chapter.

The New Jews – by Michael Irving Phillips

I am black
So I do not have to wear the star
For identification
Muslims now can be tracked
By compulsory registration
Mexicans will wear the smear
Of a rapist reputation
Millions will live in fear
Of their immediate deportation
For our new leader
Has body-slammed the constitution

For the Klan
There is jubilation
For once again
We'll become
A blue-eyed nation
"A black president!
What a disgrace!
Now those niggers
Will know their place".

What's this talk of diversity?
In our democracy
Hate is a great strategy
To create political popularity
Hate the blacks
Hate the Muslims
Hate Latinos too
Whether undocumented
Or legit as me and you

For we are the new Jews
Scapegoats of the nation
Lock them in the gas chambers
Of discrimination
And when the police
Shoot us down
They'll need no justification
Just routine persecution

So new Jew
Justice for all
Except you
Let me make it clear
You better learn to live in fear
For America elected a new leader
To the new Jews
He is the brand new
Adolph Hitler

County Council of Howard County, Maryland
2017 Legislative Session – January 18, 2017
Public Hearing Testimony Regarding Bill No. 9-2017
Cathey Allison

Respected County Council of Howard County:

I am here to deliver an essay prior to your Work Session of January 23, please read this essay. It explains the history of the politically charged words "**human rights**". American governments do not own American citizens nor should they invent a political lexicon containing such words as "**human rights**" to confuse the citizenry.

The Bill states: "WHEREAS, Howard County has a strong tradition of leadership on issues of **human rights**, respecting the rights of and providing equal services to all individuals, regardless of race, ethnicity, or immigration status ..."

Indeed, America's founding charter, the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, state that our unalienable rights come from our Creator and "That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Therefore, our law is written in respect of our Creator, and the powers assigned to government are to be **lawful**, i.e., "just."

If this Bill passes, some people in the county will be required to obey laws. Others **will be given preferential treatment and** will not be held accountable to the law. This is **unjust** and is a breach of the Maryland Oath of Office to govern "without partiality."

The Bill's premise of "human rights" is a claim that the Council names the "rights" that will be **granted** to people **from** government. That pretends to be justification for lawlessly--unjustly--codifying Howard County Government's **abdication** from its **duties** to impartially secure the God-given rights of the governed and to protect the community **from** law-breakers. It is illogical that the keepers of the peace (police, sheriff's department, etc) would not be allowed to ascertain the legal or illegal status of a person when dealing with the person for certain concerns.

Additionally, I request that this government acknowledge that the word "illegal" means "not legal". Howard County Police officers should be well aware of the legal intent of "probable cause" which is already proven law. We request that political punditry not be tolerated in composing bills to obfuscate the enforcement of our

County Council of Howard County, Maryland
2017 Legislative Session – January 18, 2017
Public Hearing Testimony Regarding Bill No. 9-2017
Cathey Allison

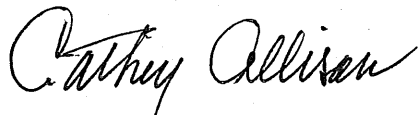
rightful law.

In 1789 the several states authorized a national government with specific, limited powers such as: U. S. Constitution, Article. IV. Section 4, "The United States shall guarantee to every State in this Union a Republican Form of Government, and shall protect each of them against Invasion; and on Application of the Legislature, or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened) against domestic Violence."

State laws may not conflict with any provision of the U.S. Constitution or U.S. laws pursuant to it. I assert that a county of the State of Maryland does not have standing to legislate that of which it has no legal authority. Additionally, the very umbrage exhibited by composing such a Bill is an insult to the higher goals and intentions of our rightful law. CB9 is a politically driven, illegal abuse of our esteemed legislative process.

I ask that the Council members vote AGAINST this bill.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathey Allison
Carroll County Maryland

Statement on Howard County's Sanctuary Proposal*

To our deep dismay and concern, CB-9, the Howard County Sanctuary bill embraces and expands the Obama policies that created the "Era of No Consequences." These policies fueled the illegal immigration crisis and drug epidemic that victimized entire cities and destroyed families. Those that were hardest hit by these policies included minorities, single mothers, existing lawful resident aliens, and others who had to compete for services and charities that were overwhelmed by the massive influx of illegal aliens.

This bill greatly expands these dangerous policies and demonstrates Mr. Calvin Ball and Ms. Jen Terrasa's deeply alarming willingness to sell out the security of Howard County families to advance their political or financial interests. Their immigration plan is not only dangerous for all county families, but previews a county government that will defy the will of the voters and Congress to implement a divisive, reckless, and partisan agenda.

This bill calls for a sanctuary for illegal immigrants and ignores American families. It does nothing to protect those who are victimized every day by our blind pursuit of open borders, and in fact subjects them to a greater threat. No one, in either party, should run for office unless they are willing to put the interests of American families above anything or anyone else.

Every Howard County family should be alarmed that this bill leaves their children vulnerable to drug cartels that control the Mexican border. Last year, 150,000 people were killed by these ruthless criminal organizations. Anyone who opposed them quickly discovered that these cartel leaders were morally bankrupt. Hundreds of journalists, activists, politicians and law enforcement officers simply disappeared or fled to the U.S., as the cartels used forms of terror such as torture, dismemberment and beheadings to control people. And these cartel tentacles reach into all cities across America. Mr. Ball and Ms. Terrasa's failure to recognize this pending threat leaves all of us vulnerable to the growing power and influence of these criminal organizations.

We are already seeing a massive influx of activity on our southern border. This bill and the welcome mat it offers will lure even more families into the U.S. destroying innocent lives.

**County Council Testimony CB-9 Hector Garcia
FIRN, Executive Director
January 17, 2016**

Good Evening, I am Hector Garcia, CEO & Executive Director of FIRN (Foreign-Born Information Referral Network), I am also a resident of Howard County for over 17 years.

FIRN has provided support to foreign-born persons in our community since 1981. My objective tonight is be true to FIRN's purpose as stated in our tagline: "Bridging Cultures and Building Community". As a community, we can only accomplish this if each of us enter this discussion with an open mind and open heart.

I challenge you and each of us to truly listen to one another and respect our right to disagree and get the facts straight in your working session.

Throughout our history FIRN has had a positive working relationship with the Howard County Government. We appreciate the bi-partisan support we receive from the County for the work we do on behalf of the foreign-born and many, many residents that through Firn have paved their way from

immigrant population last night. Not all immigrants have the ability to get on a plane and come here with a plan and money. Let's remember some come fleeing violence, gangs, cartels, persecution and I fear for their lives and the lives of their children. That is why the "sanctuary" legislation is so important to them. The concept of a "sanctuary" has been part of history for thousands of years. I appreciate that the word "sanctuary" can mean different things to different people. What it means for FIRN's clients is a life without fear. They may not enjoy the rights and benefits of citizenship but the sanctuary status would safeguard their basic human rights and more than that peace of mind.

Have any of you served in the military? My dad did, is puertorican, born a citizens d so was I. His wall I full of medals; Purple Heart, Bronze Star, etc.

However, besides me experiencing racism throughout my life, my 12 year old son who's last name is Garcia is a target at his school. Our great schools deal with racial in indents

12603 Fawn Run Court
Ellicott City, MD., 21042
17 January, 2017

Subject: CB9-2017

Dear Howard County Council Members ;

My wife and I are taxpaying resident citizens and, registered voters of Howard County for over six years.

I have thoroughly reviewed the proposed legislative Bill CB9-2017. I cannot support this Bill as proposed, and I doubt that it can be modified to become acceptable. From the definitions and application with "An Act", through the "Where As' s" and "Prohibitions" paragraph, the language confusing, contradictory and not likely enforceable under any practical circumstance. Further, you have been granted no right nor authority to change US. Constitutional and Federal Legislation, MD. State Law, and specifically, not even under the Howard County Charter. With the oath you took, you have the specific responsibility to uphold and enforce these laws. Under the County Charter, you do not have the right to select the parts of these laws that you will uphold, nor do you have the right to tell or direct County Employees, Police and other First Responders to in-effect break the law, even by an order or Directive of non-enforcement! Please rethink through the implications of your "Directive", and the likely resulting unintended consequences.

Each of you have taken an Oath of Office, and sworn to uphold these three levels of Law. The Oath of Office does not give you the right to decide what parts of these laws that you will uphold, and which parts not. You may express your opinion and, even propose changes to them by following by following the proscribed processes to effect their change.

I am also concerned with the time and energy this ill-conceived effort is taking away from other pressing County problems and issues. For example, these issues include support to the new Board of Education as it steers its way to correct management and compliance issues with good sense; and, compliance with MD State Board of Education governance and administrative standards; in addition, the timing and availability Adequate Public Facilities and other resources to satisfy current needs and

future requirements; and, the staging and resources necessary resources to effectively implement the recently revised and approved Ten Year Plan.

Finally, and most important is what I call the "Kate Stienle" effects of sanctuary. Just over a year ago, she was stabbed to death in her home city of San Francisco, a sanctuary city, by an immigrant that had deported at least four times and entered/re-entered illegally at least five times. This could have been Our daughter, a graduate of both Johns Hopkins and U. of San Francisco. She lived in San Francisco for almost fourteen years. By any standard, both young ladies were bright, accomplished, and dynamic. ICE and other Federal Agencies sought San Francisco's help in locating and apprehending him for other violent crimes, but were stone-walled with non-cooperation because he was an immigrant protected by their Sanctuary Law. What an obtuse and perverted perspective of Laws, Rights and Protections! As I listened to anguish felt by Kate's father and mother. A father's key responsibilities are to Love, Provide for and Protect his family first, and then his neighbors irrespective of immigration status. I want our Police and first responders to know we stand with them and support them. And, that includes the tools and laws necessary without compromise, so they can openly fulfill their Oath.

Respectfully,

//S//

Charles S. Lapinski

As parents, how do we teach our children to obey the law if our county is, in effect, saying only obey laws you deem okay? How do we explain that law breakers are rewarded by our county for breaking the law, while those who comply are penalized? My family personally was prevented from reuniting our daughters with their sister because we tried to bring her into the United States legally. We contacted our senator and congressman to sponsor a bill to allow a relative to immigrate. Because of the abundance of illegal immigrants entering Texas, the congressman from Texas, wouldn't allow the U.S. House of Representatives to vote on the bill. This Sanctuary proposal is insulting and offensive to law abiding immigrants!

I'm willing to risk being called prejudice or other unfounded labels because I feel strongly opposed to flagrantly "thumbing our noses" to our country. By establishing our county as a sanctuary for those with no regard to our immigration laws, we have decided that we don't have to abide by selective Federal Laws. Does this mean that, as a county, we could be a sanctuary for human trafficking. By allowing our county to selectively choose to remove ourselves from complying with Federal laws, does it follow that a community, block, or household in Howard County could form a sanctuary within Howard County? Could a community decide not to be part of the Illegal Immigration Sanctuary? Could a community, block, or household decide to be a sanctuary from Maryland or Howard County laws? How about a school deciding that it doesn't want to abide by the Board of Education rules? A teacher who doesn't believe in zero tolerance for drugs, establishing a sanctuary in his/her classroom?

My final questions are directed to the council members who are in favor of this proposal. I thought that it was incumbent upon the council to further the best interests of the legal citizens and legal immigrants of Howard County. How is jeopardizing needed Federal funds (because you place lawbreaking illegal immigrants above the rights of legal residents) considered in

APPENDIX A - RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF HOWARD COUNTY, MARYLAND^[1]

Footnotes:

-- (1) --

Editor's note— The rules of procedure are set out herein as adopted by the County Council on November 3, 1975, following a public hearing held on October 27, 1975.

Rule 1.001 - General.

These rules of procedure for the County Council are adopted under authority of section 208 of the Howard County Charter.

- (a) *Types of Meetings.* The Council shall hold regular legislative meetings and such other meetings, hearings, and work sessions as may be provided by law or required for the orderly conduct of business. All such meetings shall be open to the public. The Council may meet in closed session as permitted by the State Open Meetings Act. Any closed meeting, except a meeting that is closed to discuss a personnel issue, may be attended by any Councilmember, Special Assistant to a Councilmember, and appropriate County professional staff member unless the Council expressly further restricts attendance.
- (b) *Time of Meetings:*
 - (1) *Legislative session days.* The Council may sit up to 45 days in each year for the purpose of introducing and enacting legislation. Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, the Council shall meet regularly on the first Monday in each month.
 - (i) If the first Monday is a County Government holiday or a day on which Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Eid Ul Fitr or Eid Ul Adha is observed, then the meeting shall be held on the next succeeding day which is not one of these days.
 - (ii) There shall be no legislative session in August, except for an emergency legislative session, unless the Council provides by resolution for a session in August.
 - (iii) During a Council election year no legislative session, except for an emergency legislative session, shall be held neither during the month of November nor during the month of December until a majority of the members of the Council shall be qualified.
 - (iv) The Council may be called into emergency legislative session either by the County Executive or by a majority of the members of the Council on any day as directed by the Chairperson.

Public Participation. Reasonable seating facilities shall be provided for the public and the news media at all public meetings. During public hearings upon pending legislation, the budget or other matters, a reasonable amount of time will be provided for members of the public to speak. The Council may allow members of the public to speak on legislation or other pertinent matters at work sessions of the Council.

The general public and representatives of the news media are expected and respectfully requested to maintain order and decorum in keeping with the dignity of the governmental process, and to refrain from interfering with this process. The Chairperson or a majority of the Council may regulate the use of radio and television equipment to minimize interference with the meeting or hearing.

(f) *Oath of Office.* The following oath of affirmation, administered by the Clerk of the Circuit Court for Howard County, shall be taken by each Councilmember, at a public meeting in a place to be determined by the Councilmembers after consulting with the Councilmembers-elect before entering upon his duties:

"I, _____, do swear (or affirm) that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of Councilmember of Howard County according to the Constitution and Laws of this State."

(Res. No. 135, 1980; Res. No. 45, 1989; Res. No. 50, 1992; Res. No. 140, 1994; Res. No. 146, 1994; Res. No. 13, 1996; Res. No. 133, 1999; C.B. 72, 2004; C.B. 81, 2004; Res. No. 11, 2011)

Definition of Aiding and Abetting

Noun

1. The act of helping, encouraging, or supporting someone in the commission of a crime.

Verb

2. To actively encourage, to assist, or to support the commission of a criminal act.

Origin of Abet

1875-1325 Middle English *abette*

What is Aiding and Abetting

In order to deter people from helping criminals get away with their crimes, the law makes giving aid a crime in and of itself. A person may be charged with the crime of aiding and abetting, even though he was not present during, or did not physically assist with, the commission of the crime. Someone who aids and abets a crime may provide support by giving advice, financial support, or by taking action not directly related to the crime itself, for the purpose of facilitating its success.

Example of Aiding and Abetting

When Della's boyfriend Rob, and his friend Steve, begin holding "private" meetings in the couple's basement, she knows something is up. A few weeks later, Rob comes home in a rush, hauling a couple of heavy bags down the basement steps. Worried, Della follows him down, to see a huge amount of cash in the bags, as Rob worked frantically to stuff it all into a hole in the wall behind the heating unit. Deciding she doesn't want to know, Della just pushes it out of her mind.

Testimony in support of CB-9 2017; January 17, 2017

My name is Jean Joklik. I am a Howard County resident in Mary Kay Sigaty's district and I am speaking in support of CB-9 2017.

I believe in the inherent worth and dignity of all people and find that **this bill represents a positive step for Howard County to ensure the safety and security of all residents.** I am especially concerned for my immigrant neighbors - documented and undocumented who live and work in Howard County. This bill is not only symbolic, although I do appreciate the symbolism. It is a very real safety concern for all residents that people are able to report crime without fear of deportation. It is a safety concern for children and families who live with domestic violence to know they can call for help without fear of deportation. It is a safety and security concern that children attend school while their parents work. And fear of deportation should never be a reason why immigrant children are at home instead of in school.

I am unconcerned that we will be flooded with immigrants. For goodness sake - where would they live? Let's not forget that housing costs in Howard County are unaffordable at the pay scale for the entry level jobs of many undocumented immigrants. The salaries of our teachers, police officers and fireman are often not enough for them to live in Howard County.

I understand that this **bill does not prevent enforcement of federal laws or prevent deportation of undocumented immigrants or people who commit crimes.** What it does is codify existing practice and firmly sets an example for the rest of the region and the country that Howard County really does choose civility for everyone.

I am unconcerned with the loss of federal funding for this reason - **human rights and dignity for all is not a value that's for sale in Howard County.** At a time when the United States and President Elect Trump have been placed on the Human Rights Watch list (a first for the US) I hope that you will actively and vocally supported this bill. **As one of the best places to live in the country we need to ask ourselves: what does that really mean if we can not ensure the safety and security of all of our residents?**

I moved my family here in 2007. For ten years we have enjoyed living and working here. In the last two years I have noticed a significant upswing in divisive and racist incidents in the community and in the public schools. This concerns me a great deal. I ask that all of you consider your vote in light of these incidents as well. **Please consider that CB-9 2017 puts responsibility and accountability at all levels of government in support of the #onehoward initiative.**

Please send a clear message with your support of CB-9 2017 that you represent all residents and that at all levels of government, we are a diverse, inclusive and compassionate community.

In beloved community,
Jean Glasson Joklik
Columbia, MD 21044

This Bill is fluff and is meant to only raise its supporters standing in 2 populations. Their current base and illegal immigrants who they hope will become legal someday and vote for them. It is that simple- this Bill is for votes. This is a violation of your oath of office and a breach of your fiduciary duty. You are to serve Howard County above personal political ambitions. If you remove your personal interests from the equation it will become clear to you the right decision for the interests of Howard County is to kill this Bill. Please make a motion to withdraw the Bill, you will get a second, I am sure of it.

Another real and impactful consequence of this Bill, and perhaps, the biggest consequence of this Bill should it pass into law is it will turn Howard County into a destination for illegal immigrants. Illegal immigrants who come here straight from foreign countries and illegal immigrants who are all over the United States--both seeking to live where they can break the law without fear of justice and be rewarded in the process by utilizing our tax payer funded services, like our schools and social programs.

A Councilor here tonight says she and her co-sponsor want to reassure county residents alarmed by statements regarding the Government dramatically increasing deportation of illegal immigrants.

You mean as *lawmakers* you do not support the Federal Government taking action against *law breakers*? As American Citizens you do not support the Federal Government trying to gain control over illegal immigration? If you really had an interest in a solution you would be seeking to connect with those on Capitol Hill tasked with immigration reform. As higher ranking elected officials from a State which borders Washington DC you can get an ear.

Let us look at a county right next door whose legislators voted to turn MC officially, into what is viewed as a sanctuary county. Let us just look at the facts—

My name is Sonya Starr and I am an ordained Rabbi. Today I am representing Howard County's Board of rabbis and myself as a voting resident of Howard County. I am here asking each of you to vote for Bill No. 9-2017 and take a stand to protect some of our most vulnerable residents in Howard County.

I would like to begin by telling you two short stories. One about a woman named Sarah and the other about a man named William. Sarah was born and raised in the old country. She was the one of a very big family that was targeted for violence, unemployment, discrimination, and hate crimes on a regular basis. Her family designated her older single unattached brother to come to the United States of America. It took years before the system worked and he was finally granted legal passage to the United States. Unfortunately by the time the papers came, he was ill and unable to leave. So Sarah dressed up as a man left the old country at the age of 17. With one small problem yet to be solved, Sarah needed to be sponsored by an American citizen. Thankfully for her there were men who were for hire. You paid them enough money and they became your uncle for the day. I say lucky for her because she had the money in hand to pay; others paid by becoming prostitutes until they had paid off their passage.

The other person's story I would like to share with you is Williams. William was also born in the old country. His family's papers to immigrate to the United States did not come until he was 6 years old. Before that when he was four he fell down a flight of stairs. He destroyed his ear drum and never heard another sound again. Because of the lack of medical and educational resources available to those in poverty he never made any sounds except to grunt. When his family got to Ellis Island they lied and said he was shy, fluent in two languages, and had a head cold.

Both Sarah and William were allowed into this country and eventually became naturalized citizens. William grew up and married Martha another child immigrant. Sarah married Morris who also immigrated as an adult. Between the four of them their descendants became TV repair men, successful business men and women, CPAs, high school English teachers, decorated service men in the Navy and infantry, sign language interpreters, New York City defense lawyer, Columbus Ohio TV sports reporter, and social workers. Their descendants marched for civil rights, the end of the Vietnam War, lobbied our legislatures for better child care education, and marriage equality. They even have a congregational rabbi who lives and works in Howard County in their family tree. You see Morris, Sarah, William and Martha are my grandparents. All four of them immigrated to this country; two of them legally, following all the rules while two of them, Sarah and William's parents, lied, manipulated, deceived and bought their way into this country. The only thing that separates Sarah and William from the ~~non~~ undocumented residents of Howard Country is 100 years.

Our undocumented neighbors have fled extreme poverty, relentless violence, horrific persecution and unavailable medical care to come to a country where they often do not know the language, the laws, how the schools or court system works in order to give their documented children and

I am the 10 yr old that migrated to the United States with my parents from India, VISAs and passports in hand

I am the offspring of 2 hardworking, devoted first generation, undocumented immigrants. Laborers; the foundations of the economic stability in Howard County and around this nation. Taxpayers, sharing the burden of taxes with all of you.

I am the Murray Hill Middle Schooler that acclimated to new cultures, often coming across questions like, "How come you know English so well, you don't have an accent?"

I am the Junior at Reservoir High School who took every advance placement class possible - essentially completing the freshman year college course load.

I am the high school Senior who shied away from questions like, "have you heard back from any of the schools you applied to?"

Because how do you tell your fellow national honor society peers that college may not be meant for you just because you don't have a social security number, a 9 digit number that speaks for the lived marginality.

I am the leader that hosted Oprah's ambassadors in Howard County at Reservoir High School - only chapter in the state that helped outsourcing aid to West African schools. Not only helping build schools but sustain healthy classrooms for village children, who before then did not know what it feels like to go to school steps away from their home - **Ask me how to do away with the fear of losing federal dollars** - it is simple, value human beings and stand by a righteous fight - it is the lesson taught in Howard County Public School classrooms every single day.

I am one of few to have marched onto the Senate floor, defying civil disobedience to argue against policies unjustly separating families, snatching away a chance to pursue our "American DREAM." Dreams, that are not limited by borders.

I am the 1/10 2014 White House DACA Champions of Change.

I am UMBC alumni, Class of 2014

I am the emergency department medical scribe that carefully documents your medical histories.

I am the ICU technician who cares for your critically ill loved ones.

Pratishtha Khanna
January 17th, 2017

I am a 25 y/o breadwinner for my family, aspiring medical school student, a daughter, a sister putting her younger brother through flight school, your childrens' friend, your neighbor, a consumer - a contributor to the local economy, an undocumented citizen, a DACA recipient, most importantly a Howard County resident - taught and groomed in your schools and community.

I am a Howard County Undocumented youth, with deferred immigration status, sharing your tax burden everyday.

I am UNDOCUMENTED, UNAPOLOGETIC, UNAFRAID.

Recently, a statement made to denounce council bill 9, the Howard County Sanctuary bill reduced and compared hundreds if not thousands of Howard County residents to drug dealers, human traffickers, and child pornographers when justifying the partnership between local police and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). The statement fails to consider that many felons and criminals are not born beyond the borders of this country. It is derogatory, shallow, dehumanizing, misinformed, and misleading. I am not here to justify my existence, I exist despite the barriers, walls, and borders that have imprisoned me. I exist, along with many others as economic misfits - fierce contributors to the local and national economy without any promises of recognition. Countless undocumented citizens of this community and I have earned the privilege to live in Howard County.

Respected Councilman and Council women, I want to urge you to make a sound and informed decision. In the spirit of celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King, he once appropriately said, "Shallow understanding from people of goodwill is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will." I hope you are able to value the past and continued contributions of undocumented citizens of this community, I hope you decide to stand on the right side of history.

Columbia Democratic Club

While Council Bill 9 contains a provision that expressly states it will not supersede any federal or state laws, this law has become very necessary in light of the national rhetoric on immigration. Due to the current climate surrounding immigrants and refugees in the United States, it is imperative that our local leaders act with the temperament and tolerance that is the hallmark of Howard County. Opposition to Howard County being established as Sanctuary County rejects who we are and the image we strive to project. For this reason and those listed above, I urge your support on Council Bill 9. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Maureen Evans Arthurs
President
Columbia Democratic Club

TESTIMONY OF WILLIE FLOWERS
PRESIDENT, HOWARD COUNTY BRANCH NAACP #7020
Council Bill 9-2017

Chairman Weinstein and members of the Council, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Council Bill 9-2017. First let me bring greetings on behalf of the Executive Committee and the General Membership of the Howard County Branch of the NAACP. Since 1944, the NAACP in Howard County has been one of the leading voices organized to improve the political, educational, social and economic status of minority groups as well as to eliminate racial prejudices. While the founding vision for Howard County was based on racial equality, we are entering into a new era where that vision is potentially under assault.

Today, I lend my voice in support of Council Bill 9-2017. The bill would create a "sanctuary city" in Howard County to prohibit the County and its agencies from inquiring about the immigration status of Howard County residents and from alerting federal law enforcement of those findings. We are aware that this proposed legislation would not preempt state and federal law enforcement actions, rather we are supporting the notion that local law enforcement should not be tasked with leading initiatives that are under the jurisdiction of federal immigration authorities.

Moreover, we believe that all residents should feel safe in their communities without fear of adverse actions from local officers who are tasked with protecting and serving all communities. The immigration status and final adjudication of undocumented residents will be determined in other venues by federal immigration officials. Until that time, we should come together as a community of shared values to ensure the "*American dream*" does not become a nightmare scenario played out in our schools, libraries and neighborhoods.

Finally, I should add to be clear: Symbolic doesn't mean superficial. Any attempt to do good in an environment that awards cynicism is miracle work.

I respectfully urge the full Council to vote favorably on Council Bill 9-2017 to provide a sense of safety for all Howard County residents and its employees.

Testimony of Hang An on CB9-2017 (Sanctuary - Immigration and Citizenship)

January 17, 2017

Stance: **Against**

Dear Council Members,

My name is Hang An. I am a computer programmer and first generation immigrant. My family has lived in Howard County, the best place to live in this country, for 13 years. Today I am here to strongly oppose the CB9-2017 bill.

I am a Democratic and strong supporter of Ms. Hillary Clinton. I still do not like president-elect Donald Trump, and disagree with many of his positions. However, let me emphasize, this is not a time or matter about post-election disappointment, anti-Trump sentiment, hate, or diversity. This is about the future of Howard County, our home, our children's home. This is beyond Donald Trump and his administration. The timing of this bill is awkward and bad. It was introduced during the holiday season and right before the new president's inauguration. Even today, many people still have not heard about this bill at all. For such a critical matter, we simply cannot make a rush, risky and emotional decision.

Secondly, the content of this bill is vague. As much as I believe in all the good intentions behind this bill attempting to provide better benefits and protection to undocumented immigrants, it lacks practical details, especially in terms of financial funding, or how to make this feasible in the long term. Let me ask this question: are we going to use the same amount of taxpayers' money we have today (or actually less money due to the potential loss of federal funding) to support more people, OR increase taxes in order to provide the same benefits we have today to all people, documented and undocumented? Either way, how will this bill make financial sense to our whole community? For example, to our schools and already tight educational resources? We all live by real financial numbers, not by politics. Trump and sanctuary California can declare bankruptcy, shall we?

Due to the limited time I have today, I am not even going to talk about other major issues like public safety concerns.

Council members, this matter is crossing party lines. Here I urge you to please carefully consider or reconsider your position. We are counting on you.

Thank you!

Hang An
12332 Preakness Circle Lane
Clarksville, MD, 21029
(443) 983-1185
hangucb@yahoo.com

**County Council of Howard County, Maryland
2017 Legislation Session
Registration Day No. 1
Bill No. 9 - 2017**

The Stick Verses The Carrot ?

Dear Council Members,

I have read Bill No. 9 -2017 carefully and also studied Title 12 - Health and Social Services, Subtitle 21 - Rights of Non - U.S. - citizens. I have also read 12.2102. No Enforcement of immigration laws, and 12.2103 No inquiries into Citizenship, and 12.2104. Discrimination Based on Citizenship Prohibited, and 12.2105 Confidentiality of Information about Citizenship Status, and 12.2106. Changes in Practices.

In 1980 Los Angeles was the first to issue "Special order 40" prohibiting police to enforce title 8, section 1325 of the United States Immigration Code (Illegal Entry). Since then many local governments have adopted these types of ordinances. Electoral and Political action groups (Both for and Against) are driving the issue.

By now after forty years we should have many studies on crime and incarceration rates that relate to sanctuary governments and illegal aliens. These rates should indicate the impact this is having on the community! Just look at California's incarceration rates for convicted felons who are illegal immigrants in the correctional institutions. Look at the violent crimes and drug rates in Southern California and the demographics as to whom commit these acts.

Our own Baltimore Sun said we are following the progressive lead of Prince Georges and Montgomery Counties and Baltimore City. While Virginia Counties have taken the opposite approach resulting in a migration from Virginia into Maryland.

Why should residents have fair and equal access to County benefits and opportunities and services if they are illegal residents of the United States of America? I know what the Supreme Court ruling

states, but that doesn't seem to bother you in making your own rules.

The two lines referring to racist, xenophobic, islamophobic and a President-elect whom you quote as having "Bolstered such dangerous sentiments, makes me wonder what your true objective for Bill No. 9 really is!

How safe is a police officer who pulls over an undocumented immigrant driving a eighteen wheeler who can't read or speak English, for a traffic violation or unsafe truck? Not to think of the other motorists traveling the same roads?

I urge the council to stop the politics and do what is right for Howard County and the United States. Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" would a best seller if our children read such books!

How much of a financial drain on our hospitals, welfare, social security, SSI, Medicaid , food stamps and emergency shelter programs can we afford when the floodgates are open? Too many riding in the wagon instead help pulling it until the whole system fails. Shall we be expected to fund legal fees for illegal residents?

As for fear for personal safety and loss of civil liberties, I remember the Columbia Mall shootings and taking a Stop The Bleeding Course given by Howard County. I feel less safe now than I did when I moved to Howard County almost forty years ago! My car had all it's windows broken out in my own driveway. My Mail box was set on fire and destroyed!

I know the police can't be everywhere or rescue me in a mall shooting if bleed- out time is two minutes. Recently, the Federal Government settled refugees in our State but we are not allowed to know where they are, their background , or given any information to help our police identify them!

There are some statements I agree with on human rights, i.e. respecting the rights of others.

Finally, I ask - will the residents of Howard County bear the burden of increases in taxes and the loss of federal funds because we choose to avoid following the rule of law and common sense?

Andrew P. Napolitano, a former judge of the Superior Court of New Jersey wrote:

Thus the question: Are state and local governments required to help the feds enforce federal law? In a word: No.

The term "sanctuary cities" is not a legal term, but it has been applied by those in government and the media to describe municipalities that offer expanded social services to the undocumented and decline to help the feds find them -- including the case of Chicago's offering undocumented immigrants money for legal fees to resist federal deportation. As unwise as these expenditures may be by cities that are essentially bankrupt and rely on federal largesse in order to remain in the black, they are not unlawful. Cities and towns are free to expand the availability of social services however they please, taking into account the local political climate.

Enter the Supreme Court. It has required the states -- and thus the municipalities in them -- to make social services available to everyone resident within them, irrespective of citizenry or lawful or unlawful immigration status. This is so because the constitutional command to the states of equal protection applies to all persons, not just to citizens. So the states and municipalities may not deny basic social services to anyone based on nationality or immigration status. The high court has also prohibited the federal government from "commandeering" the states by forcing them to work for the feds at their own expense by actively enforcing federal law. As Ronald Reagan reminded us in his first inaugural address, the states formed the federal government, not the other way around. They did so by ceding 16 discrete powers to the federal government and retaining to themselves all powers not ceded.

The high court has also prohibited the federal government from “commandeering” the states by forcing them to work for the feds at their own expense by actively enforcing federal law.

As Ronald Reagan reminded us in his first inaugural address, the states formed the federal government, not the other way around. They did so by ceding 16 discrete powers to the federal government and retaining to themselves all powers not ceded.

If this constitutional truism were not recognized or enforced by the courts, the federal government could effectively eradicate the sovereignty of the states or even bankrupt them by forcing them to spend their tax dollars enforcing federal law or paying for federal programs.

Thus the Trump dilemma. He must follow the Constitution, or the courts will enjoin him as they have his predecessor. He cannot use a stick to bend the governments of sanctuary cities to his will, but he can use a carrot. He can ask Congress for legislative grants of funds to cities conditioned upon their compliance with certain federal immigration laws.

Respectfully,

Dr. Charles A Priller, Jr. D.D.S, B.S. in Pharmacy

Testimony of Judith Todes in Favor of Making Howard County a Sanctuary Jurisdiction

5457 Antrim Ct., Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 740-9341

I am Judith Todes, a retired immigration attorney and longtime resident of Howard County. My family has lived in Howard County for over 20 years. The diversity and welcoming nature of the community was one of the big draws. We were very pleased to be able to have our kids grow up in a diverse neighborhood. It helped make them the understanding men they are today. I thank Howard County for that and hope that you keep our community the welcoming place it is by passing this legislation.

The people I met, as an immigration lawyer, reminded me of my grandparents, who came here to escape the Tsar in Russia and to seek economic opportunities that were not available to them where they were born. Like my family members, immigrants cherish this country and the freedoms and opportunities that it has offered them. The immigrants I have worked with are among the most patriotic people I have ever met. They see this country as the land of opportunity and freedom that has saved them and allowed their families to flourish.

Some came without proper documentation. That too reminds me of my grandfather, who family lore says came here with a fake passport, listing his name as "David Brooklyn" so he would know where to go when he arrived. It never made him any less of an asset to his community. He was welcomed into this country, taught for many decades, was a respected scholar, and raised two sons, both of whom served in the military defending our country's freedom. Had the United States not welcomed my grandfather, he no doubt would have been killed by the Nazis, as his family who remained were all slaughtered.

Today's immigrants come for the same reasons as my relatives and deserve the same opportunities and shelter that my family was given. They too are fleeing countries where they are persecuted and cannot support their families. Think about it. What would it take for you to leave a country you know, where all of your loved ones live, to move to a foreign country, where the culture is strange and the language is unknown? People make these types of difficult moves only when there are great forces driving them. Today's immigrants come when their lives are in danger, when they cannot feed their families, when there is no other choice.

Some come without documentation because they can't get it. But, I don't condemn them. I am in awe of them. I look at them and only hope that if I was faced with a dangerous present and a horrible future for my children, I would have the courage and determination to do what they did. Take the risk. Cross the border. Live in uncertainty. To get my children a better future. These people are not shameful, they are heroes. They come here, work hard in pursuit of the American dream, and contribute greatly to this country.

It is our proudest tradition as a nation that we welcome in people who need us. And we have always been rewarded by the immigrants we have welcomed. Immigrants help grow our economy, care for our sick, feed us, and are our neighbors, friends and relatives.

Good Evening ,

My name is Jean Xu. I have lived in Howard County District 1 for 10 years. I immigrated from China more than 20 years ago and became a proud US Citizen after 10 years of waiting in the line. Currently I'm the president of Chinese American Parent Association of Howard County. My husband is a scientist. We are the hard-working middle class that pay taxes to support most of our County's operation.

I'm here tonight to strongly oppose CB9-2017.

Howard County has always been known for its diversity, inclusion, and civility. My High School daughter has friends from diverse backgrounds. She just learned some facts about fasting from one of her muslim friends and found it very interesting and shared it with me. She and her friend work on team projects and go to clubs together. We parents arrange car pool and became good friends as well. In addition, our county has many diverse programs / initiatives that support all members of the community. I have the privilege to be involved in a few of them, including the Culture Proficiency and Equity Advisory Committee, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, both are under HCPSS. I have always been very proud that my family lives in a place that respects all cultures and celebrates diversity. Therefore when I read this bill, I felt very offended by its language. The message in the bill appears to be that if we don't agree with your position then we must be xenophobic, Islamophobic or a racist and a bigot. This kind of narrative divides up and tears apart our wonderful community.

Introducing this bill does not prevent hate speech or provide additional protection as the stated intention of this bill. Quite the opposite, it creates problems. It has polarized this community unnecessarily. Council members, please look around this meeting room. So many people came out tonight, taking away our precious time with our family and friends. I believe many of you have received tons of emails and read thousands of social media posts with dividing opinions. Tension has been built up in our community after the introduction of this bill. And this very fact deeply troubles me. This bill does not make our county a better community. To the contrary, it will wreck the trust among our community members. Mr. Weinstein, Mrs. Sigaty and Mr. Fox, I urge you to vote against CB9-2017.

Thank you for listening.

Testimony in Support of CB-9-2017, January 17, 2017

My name is Jean Silver-Isenstadt and I am a Howard County resident here to speak in support of CB-9.

I am one of the guinea pig products of the bold experiment called Columbia, Maryland. My parents moved to Wilde Lake when I was four years old precisely because it wasn't like Baltimore, where racial bigotries had devastated neighborhoods, where property values suddenly collapsed as homeowners fled whenever people who didn't look like them or pray like them moved onto their block.

People came to Columbia attracted by racial and religious integration. Which was marketed. And the experiment worked. James Rouse was on the cover of TIME magazine for this visionary success. Last year Money Magazine ranked Columbia as America's best place to live. I have bragged about Howard County my whole life. Failure to pass this bill would make me stop.

Fear weakens a community. When people fear being rounded up, they fear authorities. They fear talking to the police if they've been the victim of or witness to a crime. They fear going to the emergency room if they've been hurt. Local law enforcement will have more ready support in the investigation of local crime if everyone trusts the police.

Our nation is about to swear in a President who is pro-registry, pro-incarceration, pro-torture, hostile to the free press, suspicious of all Muslims, and who has selected as a national domestic policy advisor a man who helped rebrand and legitimize the white supremacy movement. Neo-Nazis are calling for armed action against Jews in Whitefish, Montana. Here at home, even at my own Wilde Lake High School, Howard County school principals are starting to manage student-to-student hate crimes. Within the last 24 hours, the KKK leafleted yards in Ellicott City. In this context, CB-9 matters a great deal.

This bill does not override state or federal law. It is not radical. It may have little impact on the *current* practice of our police. But **it guards against slippage**. CB-9 demonstrates moral leadership during a critical juncture in our nation's history. And **moral leadership matters**. This bill's passage speaks not only to the sense of safety available to undocumented immigrants, many of whom have lived here from childhood, but to the sense of safety available to all of us.

I ask you to please support CB-9. Thank you.

Dear council members,

Good evening. My name is Hui Jiang. I have lived in Howard County for 16 years. I am a data manager and my husband is a scientist. Like all hard-working middle class, we contribute a lot of income tax to support our County's operation. Here I am strongly against CB-9 because I have many fears and concerns.

My first concern is that the safety of our community will be compromised if this bill passes. This bill is a short term, temporary, and potentially dangerous solution to the much bigger issue of citizenship rather than trying to make a political move to solve this issue in some way. Under sanctuary policies, illegal immigrants can obtain all the benefits living in Howard County regardless of their citizenship. So they don't have to strive to apply for citizenship and go through all the legal steps including criminal background check, medical exam, citizenship test, etc. Lack of criminal background check is very risky. As everybody knows, background check is crucial to maintain a safe and welcoming community. Therefore, I am afraid if this bill passes, the crime rate could increase. The bill could jeopardize the safety for majority of our county's legal resident and citizens.

I am also concerned that our county will run into more fiscal trouble if the bill is passed; our schools are already running out of budget in some areas. For example, during this school year, due to the shortness of budget, my daughter's high school no longer provides text books to every student in some classes. If we continue to increase expenditure without proper management, the quality of public school education we have worked so hard to build will be no more.

In addition, another concern is that our community will become unstable. Incoming illegal immigrants will definitely increase in our county as a result of this bill. This situation will add huge financial and economic burden. It may cause depreciation in housing values and degradation of public service. On the whole, I fear this sanctuary status will make our beautiful county become unattractive for law-abiding hardworking young people when they move into our community.

Please consider all of my realistic fears and concerns. We are all very vulnerable and do not want to become victims of CB-9. Please put the citizens and children of Howard County first.

Thank you,

Hui

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African American Coalition of Howard County (AACHC)

Ensuring Protection of Constitutional Rights

***Establishing Howard County Maryland as a Sanctuary County for
Undocumented Immigrants Families***

Testimony on Howard County Council Sanctuary Bill No. 9-2017

Rev. Robert A. F. Turner, President

African American Coalition of Howard County (AACHC)

Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Good evening Mr. Chairman (Weinstein) and Members of the Howard County Maryland County Council. The community appreciates this opportunity to come before you in support of your continued leadership in the area of justice for undocumented immigrant families.

I am submitting this testimony on behalf of the African American Coalition of Howard County (AACHC). AACHC communicate and maintain access to the public through its meetings, approximately 4,500 e-mails and through social media.

As President of the AACHC, it has been very inspiring, as well as challenging over the past twenty years in providing leadership on some of the most critical local, state and national issues, to include "promoting justice for immigrant communities."

To be specific, undocumented immigration management in Howard County Maryland is overall counter-productive:

And as the *Migration Policy Institute* would say, ["with the incoming administration in Washington sketching a vision of immigrants and refugees as threats requiring heightened scrutiny and the construction of walls to deter entry"], lack of policy on undocumented immigrants in Howard County adds unnecessary risk to the safety and security of local immigrant families.

Then the lack of policy on undocumented immigrants is an annoyance to a promised commitment of a "people oriented community Howard County maintains in honor of Jim Rouse, the founder of Columbia Maryland."

Luther King, Jr. was clear that "you don't fear death to the point that you tolerate injustice."

That is, Howard County citizens must remember Civil Rights of the 60's and the Wars fought by many of our families. Deadly though they might have been, we, never-the-less, fought those Wars and crossed those Civil Rights "bridges," despite fear of death, bodily harm or reprisal.

Thus, the African American Coalition of Howard County fully relate to and concurs with the need for County Council Bill No. 9-2017, an "illegal immigrant protective measure" recently described by the Baltimore Sun as prohibiting local staff from:

- assisting federal officials in enforcing immigration laws or helping federal immigration officials to collect information about individuals;
- inquiring about the immigration status of those they encounter in their official duties (with some exceptions); and
- discriminating based on a person's immigration status; and that they must keep information about a person's immigration status confidential.

In closing Mr. Chair, let me again elevate the eloquence of Dr. King on the issue of protecting our constitutional rights:

"To accept passively an unjust system is to cooperate with that system; thereby the oppressed become as evil as the oppressor. Non-cooperation with evil is as much a moral obligation as is cooperation with good. The oppressed must never allow the conscience of the oppressor to slumber. Religion reminds every man that he is his brother's keeper. To accept injustice or segregation passively is to say to the oppressor that his actions are morally right. It is a way of allowing his conscience to fall asleep. At this moment the oppressed fails to be his brother's keeper. So acquiescence-while often the easier way-is not the moral way. It is the way of the coward."

Again thank you for this opportunity to join others in "participating in a way forward for Immigration Reform."

Sherman Howell for Rev./Dr. Robert A. F. Turner, *President*

African American Coalition of Howard County

Cc: *Press*

Public

January 17, 2017

Members of the Howard County Council:

I am Patrick Dornan, and live at 15528 Cattail Oaks, Glenwood, 21738, testifying against CB9-2017.

I am not here tonight to berate you for putting federal funds at risk. Nor am I here to talk about how this bill could cost the county untold dollars in areas including public safety and education. No, I will let others testify to that effect.

I am here tonight for two reasons.

- 1) I DEMAND that you STOP calling me a racist. No, I do not adhere to your political philosophy, which is wrong for America and cost you an election, but that does not make me a racist. There is not a racist bone in my body. I own a real estate investment and residential remodeling company. The legal immigrants that I know are the hardest working people anywhere, and often the most talented workers in many of the trades I require. Though I know full well where to find "able bodied young Hispanic gentlemen of questionable immigration status," and could indeed employ them on a "Don't ask, Don't tell" basis, I do not. Because, it is AGAINST THE LAW.
- 2) You need to understand that actions have consequences. Should you pass this legislation, I will have no choice but to undertake a county-wide effort to place an amendment to the Howard County Charter on the ballot for the next election. We the people of Howard County will be voting on a Recall Provision that gives us the right to fire, prior to the end of your term, those of you in government who, among other things, put themselves and their political agendas over and above the people that they represent. As you are fully aware, government derives its just powers from the consent of the governed, and whenever any form of government abuses its power, it is the right of the people to alter it.

If you do not believe that I can, or that I will, succeed in this effort, I urge you to think back to 2003, when Ken Ulman and Jim Robey forced an income tax increase upon us even though there was a surplus in the General Fund. In just 29 days, my friends and I obtained over 7000 signatures on a petition to bring that unjustified tax increase to the ballot. We did not prevail due to an incomprehensible decision by a leftist judge here in the DPRM. However, the effort was overwhelmingly supported. I am certain this one will be as well. After the fiasco with the sheriff this summer, and now this, the time for a recall provision is now.

I urge you to withdraw CB9-2017 immediately. Thank you for your time.

Testimony: Re: CB9-2017

Marcia White

9384 Diamondback Drive

Columbia, MD 21045

410 964-0067

It is very clear to me, based on all the anti-immigrant rhetoric that we cannot seem to escape, that people don't understand that the act of being present in the United States in violation of US Federal immigration laws is not, standing alone, a crime. That's a fact. Undocumented presence in the United States is a civil violation, not a criminal offense; therefore law abiding undocumented immigrants are not criminals. Undocumented presence in the United States is only criminally punishable if it occurs after an individual was previously formally removed from the United States and then returned without permission. So, to call all undocumented people "illegal aliens" is factually incorrect. And to treat them as criminals because they are undocumented is both legally and morally wrong. And to call them rapists and drug pushers and all other kinds of ugly things is wrong on every imaginable level. And what Councilmembers Ball and Terrassa are doing by introducing this bill is saying "We, in Howard County, aren't going there" and I support that 100%. My understanding of this bill is that Howard County employees, police, and elected officials, will not question ANYONE about their

immigration status as they go about their day to day lives in the County. I support that 100%. This bill would ensure that all LAW ABIDING people living in the County have nothing to fear of the police or any other county employee as far as questioning or investigating their immigration status. Immigration enforcement is not and should not be the job of the Howard County Government, including the Police Department. People should not be afraid to contact anyone in our local government. I support that 100%. This bill would allow anyone who is a victim of a crime or a witness to a crime, to cooperate with police without worrying about their status being questioned. It would also foster cooperation with the police and allay some of the fear immigrants have of the police, thereby really changing the department's relationship with immigrant communities. I support that 100%. However, and this is very important, If a person commits a crime, and they happen to be undocumented, they will still be prosecuted as they would have been before this legislation took effect. Their immigration status will be determined as the legal process plays out.

Perhaps a more appropriate word than "sanctuary" should be considered to name the bill because that word implies refuge from the law, and that is not what this bill is about. This bill is about anti-harassment and civil rights protection.

So many people are afraid. I understand that. I'm personally more afraid about where we are heading as a nation than I ever

have been in my life. And some people here today are afraid that if this legislation passes, then our County will become a beacon for undocumented immigration. Well, we already are a beacon for people because we are the Best Place to Live in America. And we celebrate our diversity and we try to find ways to make this County a better place to live for everyone. And we choose civility. And we are educated. And we understand that undocumented immigration is a problem that needs to be resolved on a national level. And we aren't going to buy in to the ugly rhetoric surrounding immigration. What we are going to do with this legislation is let people go about their lives without fear of harassment.

Address : 10201 Breconshire Rd (District 1)
Ellicott City, MD 21042

This is the testimony of Xin Yi on Howard County Sanctuary Bill (CB9-2017)

My name is Xin Yi and I want to introduce myself as an immigrant. I made several choices when I grew up. I chose to study and work very hard to attend college then to get a good job here 10 years ago. It was a long and difficult journey to obtain legal residency status. But I made these choices so my kids can live a life with dignity. I am sharing my story here because it is very similar to many other immigrants like me.

My husband and I have built a small family with two kids. Like many others, we have chosen Howard County because of its low crime rate and great schools. In reading the news, MS-13 gang in DC often recruits young illegal immigrants. Washington Metro Area has seen an increased gang-related violence from illegal immigrants, including Montgomery County, where the Police said they investigated eight gang-related murders in 2015 alone. These happen to be the Sanctuary county or city you are proposing for Howard county. Although I recognize that most undocumented immigrants do not engage in criminal activities, but don't you think that ONE crime is too many if it could've been prevented with proper enforcement of immigration laws?

I've also found out that there are estimated 250,000 undocumented immigrants living in Maryland. Majority of them live in Sanctuary cities. And the annual costs added to Maryland Taxpayers to support them are close to \$2 billion². On top of that, CB-9 will risk losing federal funding. Montgomery county has seen sharp tax hikes since it declared "Sanctuary" and they have seen 42% student increase in its ESOL program last year ALONE. It is OBVIOUS that CB-9 will add additional financial burden to each tax payer.

The question I have today is:

1. Why do you propose a bill to bind the hands of our police officers to keep the crime rate low in Howard County?
2. Why do you want to attract more undocumented immigrants to come live in Howard County and add more burden to the tax payers?
3. When Federal funding is cut off, do you plan to raise taxes or reduce services?

A measure to place a "Sanctuary" label only offers false sense of security and cannot prevent immigrants from being deported from federal enforcement. It just compromises local public safety. I strongly believe CB-9 will attract more undocumented criminal immigrants to Howard County and undermine the hard work of law-abiding residents. And that is why I OPPOSE CB-9 for Howard County! Thank you!

¹ Data Source: <http://dailycaller.com/2016/06/24/dc-officials-blame-illegal-immigration-for-crime-spike/>
² Data Source: <http://www.newsmax.com/US/illegal-immigration-cost-maryland/2015/10/19/id/696999/>

Michael Walther
9435 Joey Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21042

3rd generation HO CO resident. Grandmother, parents, myself. Grandmother's land is part of the expanded YMCA property. I grew up in the MT Hebron development and my wife in the Valley Meade development. We have been married and lived in Valley Meade for 25 years, and raised 4 kids here.

Opposition to CB-9:

CB-9 will shine a beacon to attract non-US citizens (illegally in the US) to Howard County. What this means to me. My County government is:

- 1) Taking summer and part-time job opportunities away from my kids (legal citizens) in favor of individuals that are breaking federal law.
- 2) Taking college openings away from my kids. My first son was wait-listed at UMCP due to too many accepted, qualified students from our zip code. Now, my next son or daughter may be wait-listed due to even more competition – this time by students who are not legal residents in the US or who's parents are not legal residents in the US. Illegal activities/citizens taking opportunities away from my legal family is not acceptable.
- 3) Made up of elitists. As there is an exception in CB-9 for individuals running for government positions, it seems that my representatives are more concerned about their jobs than the jobs of the hard working legal citizens of their county. What's good enough for the "Ruled Class" is not good enough for the "Ruling Class". So, you can take away jobs from me and my kids, but you are not willing to jeopardize your own positions on the HO CO board.

Thanks,

MICHAEL WALTHER

P: 410.696.2565

mwalther@ebiconsulting.com

SUMMARY OF TESTIMONY

CB9-2017

James D. Walsh

January 17, 2017

“Every person elected, or appointed, to any office of profit or trust, under this Constitution, or under the Laws, made pursuant thereto, shall, before he enters upon the duties of such office, take and subscribe the following oath, or affirmation: I,, do swear, (or affirm, as the case may be,) that I will support the Constitution of the United States; and that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to the State of Maryland, and support the Constitution and Laws thereof; and that I will, to the best of my skill and judgment, diligently and faithfully, without partiality or prejudice, execute the office of, according to the Constitution and Laws of this State.” Maryland Constitution, Article 1, Section 9.

“This constitution, and the laws of the United States ... shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.” U.S. Constitution, Article VI, Clause 2.

The doctrine of state (or local) nullification of federal law has been discredited since the Civil War.

Preamble to CB9-2017:

Conflates illegal immigration with legal immigration.

Uses inflammatory and hateful rhetoric in describing those individuals who hold a different political view than its sponsors. (So much for “Chose Civility in Howard County”.)

Text of CB9-2017:

The bill is filled with general rules, numerous exceptions, and exceptions to the exceptions (although those exceptions to the exceptions may themselves be superseded by another exception). The bill is so vague and contradictory, County employees are all but guaranteed to violate it one way or the other.

As a result, all the bill effectively does is expose the County to needless liability:

- (A) By a federal or state agency suing the County for damages for enforcing the law,
- (B) By an illegal immigrant suing the County for damages for violating the law,
- (C) By a legal resident who was injured by an illegal immigrant,
- (D) By withholding of federal or state funds

Some Specific Problems:

12.2103 (B)(1) *Registration to Vote - What if a County employee discovers that a non-citizen is already registered to vote?*

12.2103 (B)(2) *Applicants for Police or Corrections - What if a County employee discovers that a non-citizen has been sworn in as a Police or Corrections officer?*

12.2106 - *What if the County Attorney's opinion is wrong?*

Testimony On
County Bill 9-2017
By
David Kroop
2587 Wellworth Way
West Friendship, MD 21794
DCK968@verizon.net

Having read, in its entirety, Bill 9-2017, I find yet another attempt to legislate Federal power at the local level. By passing such a bill as this one, we are saying to the Federal Government that we know better than they, and laws that apply to the rest of the country, do not apply to us. Not only is this arrogant, but it sets a unanticipated precedence whereby local government can superseded Federal law whenever it suites them. Does this not create a country without basic unifying laws? One could go the next step and argue that if someone is hungry, they have a right to break into a grocery store or a private residence to gather food- after all they have rights also, or perhaps the council could legislate that other basic rights granted by the U.S. constitution will not be accepted in our county. Is this where we want to go? There is the slippery slope that the "Sanctuary County" bill open up. Maybe 20 years from now another council will decide other Federal laws that we currently hold dear, should be disobeyed. Maybe an Amendment to the constitution should be removed or rewritten?

In doing my due-diligence on this topic I found many instances where crime within the "sanctuary" increased significantly. The Sanctuary became a magnet for those illegal immigrants who had a tendency towards criminal activities. Law enforcement became ineffective in protecting its citizens, reducing their function to arresting perpetrators after the fact, despite knowledge of their criminal past. Does the council want the tax payers of our county to experience a rise in violence? The county has an enviable and attractive status because of its relative perceived safety. Turning it into a Sanctuary will diminish this status and could lead to a **significant decline in tax revenues** (Landry testimony to House Judiciary Committee - Sub Committee on Immigration and Border Security).

Studies on the effects of a Sanctuary City have shown time and time again that crime rises by as much as 68% (Vaughn. Center for Immigration Studies, Jan 2014). We cannot guarantee that all these protected illegal immigrants will behave in a civil manner. It would be delusional to think such. Again Vaughn shows that in Los Angeles, two thirds of the outstanding warrants were for illegals, and that of 9,265 illegals shielded from deportation, 62% had significant prior criminal histories. Sanctuary Cities illegals commit crimes, then roam free in the community. Is this what the council wants to burden the residents of Howard County in exchange for political points?

Sanctuary Cities encourage further illegal immigration and promote an underground economy that **sabotages the tax base**. Such a enactment of the Sanctuary County Bill would serve to victimize the current legal residents. Does the council want to encourage violent ethnic gangs to find a home in our county? Do they want to shelter serial criminals who commit murder and mayhem in our communities in exchange for a "**political feel good bill**"? **Now is not the time and this bill certainly is not the device.**

In conclusion, based upon my research, **I can not support such a bad bill. I strongly recommend its permanent removal from consideration.**

I come before you this evening, not as a proud son of a legal immigrant mother - - nor will I preach on the abhorrent thought of harboring those who are in our wonderful County illegally - - what I rise to speak to you about is the sense of "duty to our system of government" and the precedent you would set for future generations by picking and choosing which Federal and State laws our local County Government will enforce or take part in enforcing. This is the epitome of opening Pandora's Box...

Be careful what you do, as it will likely come back to haunt the men and women of Howard County for generations to come.

For the record, I am against this bill and any others subsequent versions that would declare Howard County a Sanctuary County or that would contain any language that provided anything less than 100% support to our State and Federal laws.

Don Cochran

14097 Monticello Dr.
Cookeville, MD 21723

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:39

Kylie English
Period 6
3/1/17

Dear Howard County Council member Mary Kay Sigaty,

My name is Kylie English and I am a student from River Hill High school in Howard County, Maryland. I am writing today to encourage you to push for the bill to have Howard County Maryland a sanctuary county for immigrants. There is national controversy over this important topic. However, I strongly believe that it is worth it to push for this bill. There is a veto that is likely to occur with this bill. Trump has even stated that he will withhold fundings from places that do not follow his enforcement on the topic of immigration. The actions of President Trump make this bill much more important to be passed. This will send a message to the Country that our voices do matter, and our neighborhoods and homes can be a safe haven for immigrants who are trying to make a living, just like us.

The bill inhibits having police and officials from not be able to ask anyone about their immigration status or to provide information to help the federal government enforce immigration law. Also, officials and police will not be allowed to conduct random searches in places without probable cause. Police and officials also can not turn over any undocumented immigrants to federal immigration agents, or help any federal immigration agents search for undocumented immigrants.

This is needed for many different reasons. One reason is that it will make immigrants feel more comfortable talking and working with police. Many people may believe this bill offers special treatment to immigrants, allowing them to get away with crime. However, this is not the case. Immigrants who commit crimes will be punished for the crime they commit, and also be reported to immigration services. This does not protect immigrants who get in trouble with the law. This protects innocent immigrants who work very hard and are trying to get citizenship.

There is many different views on immigration. Many believe that immigrants are stealing Americans jobs, they do not contribute to society, they are criminals and a threat to society, and more. While there are immigrants who do fit into these categories, it does not apply to all immigrants. There are many immigrants who are genuinely trying to better their lives for themselves and their families. It is our job to help them in this difficult and scary process. This bill will be the first step to a huge change.

I appreciate this letter being read. There are many issues that should be addressed, and the passing of bills is the first step to a huge change.

Sincerely,
Kylie English

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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March 2, 2017

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:39

Council Member Mary Kay Sigaty
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Re: Bill No. 9-2017

Dear Council Member Sigaty:

It has come to my attention that a bill was passed, by a vote of 3-2, to make Howard County a sanctuary jurisdiction. You represent my district, and I am aware that you voted yes on this bill. As it has been vetoed by County Executive Allan Kittleman, this will be before you again and I wanted to voice my opinion on how you should vote this time around. While I am sympathetic to the undocumented immigrants that support our county, I believe that designating Howard County as a Sanctuary County will have unintended adverse effects for everyone living here.

Right now, we have many immigrants from foreign countries who flock to our county because of our standard of living, our wonderful community amenities, and our great schools. We have a relatively low crime rate as well. By agreeing with this bill, you are putting our county at risk of increased unemployment and crime rates.

I implore you to take my letter into account and change your mind when this bill come up again.

Sincerely,

Kurt Holz



March 2, 2017
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD, 21043

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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2017 MAR 22 PM 1:39

Dear Council Member Mary Kay Sigaty,

My name is Anastasia Lesho and I am a sophomore at River Hill High School. My family resides in Ellicott City, Howard County. I have lived here since I was 3 years old, and attended Triadelphia Ridge Elementary School and Folly Quarter Middle School. My father grew up in Columbia Hills, and his parents still live there. My maternal grandparents immigrated to the United States in the 1950s in pursuit of the American Dream, so one could say my family offers different perspectives on immigration. I am proud to call the area of Howard County my home, which as a planned city, is ranked as one of the best places to live in the whole country.

However, I am concerned about the sanctuary county bill. I believe in helping immigrants, but in order to best provide for the immigrant children, the school system needs some improvement. As a student, I am writing to urge you to vote no for the sanctuary bill until we have made the improvements to the school system that our county desperately needs. Please take the following points into consideration.

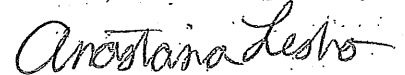
The Howard County Public School System is not ready to undergo such a demanding task. Although some high schools such as River Hill and Reservoir are diverse, other high schools are not as lucky. For example, Glenelg High School is 78.6% white, and immigrants who will attend that school could be overwhelmed. As a whole, Howard County exemplifies diversity, but we need to ensure that each and every school exemplifies diversity as well.

Also, Howard High School is extremely overpopulated at almost 130%. We need to redistrict the schools and finalize the potentially changing start times so we can promise immigrants the best education experience. Immigrant students will need to be sent to Howard High School, but at a 130% capacity rate, the education they will receive is not ideal.

Additionally, ESOL programs must be implemented into all schools, elementary, middle, and high. Even though multiple schools have programs and many bilingual students with whom the refugees can communicate, becoming a sanctuary county entails hundreds of children flooding in, many of whom speak little to no English. ESOL programs will allow students to learn English faster and get them accustomed to the Howard County Public School System.

Thank you for considering my opinion. I plead you to vote no for the bill CB9-2017, the Sanctuary County Bill, until Howard County is a safe and comfortable place for all immigrant children to live and seek an education.

Sincerely,



Anastasia Lesho
Student at River Hill High School
12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, MD 21029

Dear Miss Mary Kay Sigaty,

My name is Jared Lynchard. I am from the Clarksville area and I go to River Hill High School. I am writing a letter to you because I believe that making Howard County a "sanctuary" for illegal immigrants is a bad idea, and I want to try to convince you to change your mind. There are several reasons I believe this. The number one thing for me is that it diminishes the hard work that many immigrants had to put in to gain legal status. This to me and to them as well make it seem as though the time and effort they put in was not worth it, and to me that's unfair. Another reason I think this is a bad idea is because with President Trump's new executive order stating that sanctuary cities will lose funding, will cause Howard County to be at an even lower budget than what it already is. Especially the school district. Recently we have had some major budget issues and I think that with this new bill it would be even worse. These are the two main reasons I think you should vote no on making Howard County a sanctuary city.

Sincerely,

Jared Lynchard

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:39

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

March 6, 2017

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

Mary Kay Sigaty
County Council Member
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive, Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Ms Sigaty,

Hello. My name is Matthew Gruenke. I am a 10th grade student at River Hill High School in Clarksville, which is in your 4th district. In less than 2 years I will be able to vote and I want to tell you my feelings on the sanctuary bill.

I am writing to urge you to vote no on any future sanctuary bills like CB9-2017. I am happy that County Executive Kittleman vetoed the bill because that will help protect our community. He said the bill wasn't needed because our county police already leave undocumented immigrants alone. Also, if the bill was passed, the Trump administration could take federal funding away from Howard County. Our county needs federal funds to pay for things like law enforcement and public safety.

If Howard County police aren't helping enforce the immigration laws, it will be easier for criminals and terrorists to get in our country and live in our county where they commit crimes. Some of the September 11 bombers lived in Howard County, so maybe by having the police enforce immigration laws, they might get some of the bad ones out.

Please vote against making Howard County a sanctuary for undocumented immigrants in the future. We need to protect our community.

Thank you.

Respectfully,

Matthew S. Gruenke
River Hill High School
12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, MD 21029
410-313-7120

mgruen5548@hcpss.org



HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

February 28, 2017

Howard County Councilwoman Mary Kay Sigaty

George Howard Building

3430 Court House Drive

Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Councilwoman Mary Kay Sigaty,

My name is Audrey Benton and I live in District 4 of Howard County, Maryland. The recent veto by Allan Kittleman on CB9-2017 will have negative effects on the Howard County residents and community. As you know, the bill would have prohibited county officials from asking people their immigration status or nationality. If Kittleman's veto is overturned, then undocumented immigrants will be able to have the same and equal opportunities and services as documented citizens in Howard County. In order to overturn his veto, it must receive a 4-1 vote. I understand that it was difficult to be the deciding factor in the first vote of the bill, and I appreciate that you chose to vote in favor of it. Therefore, I am writing to urge you to try and sway your colleagues' decisions in voting against it and continue your support of the CB9-2017 when it goes back to the County Council for a possible override.

Many people come to live in the United States to experience a better life and escape the hardships of their country. I have travelled to multiple countries such as India and Thailand where the poor conditions and poverty levels push people to seek better ways of supporting their families in the United States. These undocumented immigrants should be given the same chances as legal immigrants at a better life. They live in constant fear of deportation because of President Trump's hate rhetoric and his claims that they are stealing "real" Americans' jobs. However, these residents work just as hard, if not harder, to support their families and show just as much patriotism and ethics as legal immigrants. A study by the National Bureau of Economic Research states, "Illegal immigrants provide \$500 billion in output a year. Deporting them would take away billions of dollars from the economy, further damaging it even more. Another reason they would leave their countries of origin are for opportunity and freedom. In their home countries, they may have endured oppression and had very limited rights, such as in a dictatorship. In America, they can have all the rights and freedoms that the nation is built on. The United States isn't called the "land of the free" for nothing.

I hope that you understand the best course of action to protect our community's undocumented immigrants from prejudice and bigotry is to rally support in the County Council against Allan Kittleman's veto leading up to the possible override on March 6. I appreciate your time in consideration in reading my letter. Thank you.

Sincerely, Audrey Benton

Audrey Benton

Audrey Benton
(410) 313-7120

12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, MD 21029

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

2/28/17

Dear Councilwoman Mary Sigaty,
My name is Andrew Li,

I moved her at the beginning of High School from a very diverse Montgomery County, throughout the moving process I was frankly quite nervous that this county might not be the same. I was never happier to be wrong in my life. Howard County is a welcoming place for all people and for all walks of life. Howard County is a great county, it teaches the current generation what kind and warmhearted people we have on our county council. That is why I am urging you to vote "yes" for this sanctuary bill. If you do propose a "yes", I do look forward to casting my ballot for you in the future, and what new and exciting bills will come in the future.

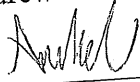
If Kittlemen vetoes bill CB9-2017 that passed by a narrow margin as he promised to, we Being on the fence like you were is not longer an option. We need to make Howard County a better county, there is no better way to achieve a utopia of acceptance. There are many reasons that having a sanctuary County is a good thing, with examples of San Francisco and their sanctuary policy, and how it affected the crime rate, and it actually going down. I think having this policy will make Howard County an even safer place for all people. In montgomery county, I was actually scared to walk through some parts of my neighborhood, big signs stating "Neighborhood Watch" to deter crime and not being allowed outside without a parent are parts of my childhood, in Howard County, there is none of that. I remember being greeted by all of my neighbors on the first day, and walking home for the first time and people walking to their mailboxes asking how I was doing. To then turn around and say we don't accept people is outrageous, I don't how you approach the issue based on budgeting concerns, approach with more of a general welfare concern.

Next, it teaches the kids in today's Howard County how to be accepting and loving towards all walks of life, regardless of race or legitimacy, a friend is a friend. I know being part of the education committee in Howard County, you are exposed to all sorts of children, children that need to learn that everyone is a person, not an animal. I came from montgomery county, and while it is technically more diverse, the racial groups at my school seemed to split amongst themselves. I don't want to see that here, you of all people should know that a child who knows more types of people does better than one who only knows one type. Finally, it brings more people to Howard County, with news of your kindness spreading like wildfire and other counties around the USA follow in our footsteps, people would know of what kindness you have shown and I sincerely hope that we can become a spearhead for better acceptance.

In Conclusion, Mary Sigaty, I urge you to vote "yes" on this bill, It honestly believe that it will make Howard County a better place overall for all people. It will raise a strong next generation of acceptance and love to continue your legacy. Don't forget that our parents and your future constituents will be looking at what you are doing, I urge you to stand on the right side of history today, and for all days to come.

Thank you for your time and sincerely,

Andrew Li

X 

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

March 2nd, 2017
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Councilwoman Mary Kay Sigaty,

Hi, my name is Sai Ravella, and I am student attending River Hill High School. I am participating in FBLA and outdoor track. I am writing to you to show my support for you, and discuss a highly issue. I want to thank you for voting for the sanctuary bill. I know you it was a hard choice but I believe it was the right choice. I also urge you to keep supporting this bill because it is very important to this city.

Howard County is one of the most diverse communities in America, where everyone, no matter the ethnicity feel like they belong. Including me. President Trump's recent actions threaten the feeling of belonging people feel towards Howard County. The ban on various muslim majority countries and the mass deportation of illegal immigrants has caused an upset in Howard County. People here don't feel safe anymore. My parents are telling me to be more careful outside and they don't feel safe here anymore, and my friend's parents feel the same way. Bill 9-2017 can help people feel safe again. It will show my parents, no, everyone's parents that Howard County supports the diversity that we have here and we are willing to protect it.

Being a Sanctuary City isn't something bad, It shows that Howard County cares for people and they are willing to support them. This Bill will change the lives of most of the people in Howard County. Howard County is the second wealthiest county in the country. For better or for worse wealth is usually associated with not caring and ignorance. Our County needs to prove to other people that we care about other people. Not only will this raise our reputation, Howard County will also become more diverse. Diversity is one of things that is very special about Howard County and making it more diverse is making it all the more special.

Ms. Sigaty, I know you do not like this fight, and would rather avoid it. But it is a fight to make our City a better place. Not only will this raise the city's reputation, it would also make the diverse communities in Howard County feel safe living here. Thank you for listening to my thoughts, and I hope you maintain your stance on ~~the~~ ^{this} very important issue.

Sincerely,
Sai Ravella
A Howard County Student

(410) 313-7120
12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, MD 21029

Sai Ravella

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

February 28, 2017

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

Mary Kay Sigaty
George Howard Building
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Mary Kay Sigaty,

My name is Ayaka Ohara and I am a student at River Hill High School in Clarksville. I have lived in this area for 8 years and have known it to be very diverse. The Sanctuary Bill, which enables Howard County to become a safe zone for undocumented immigrants, will only help to enhance the diversity in the area.

I am writing to urge you to not comply with the other representatives in the county who are telling you to abandon the sanctuary bill. America has always been a safe haven for those seeking a new life from the difficulties in their original land. We have always been a place where people can seek safety, and we should not be stopping now. The undocumented immigrants are risking their lives and their children's lives by setting foot into uncharted territory, just so they can have the chance at freedom. They have worked just as much as any other American, and they do not deserve to be put back into their miserable lifestyle and suffer. By coming to America, they are introduced to many more opportunities. America is made up of immigrants from all over the world and it is wrong to deny them a home here. Every person, whether they are an undocumented immigrant, help to strengthen our country by supplying billions of dollars to our economy, and contributing to our community by providing unique and exceptional strengths.

It would be wrong and immoral for us to turn our back to them when all they want is a chance to live a safe and happy life. People all over the county have developed close relationships with undocumented immigrants and deporting them rips them out of other people's lives, and devastates the lives of many. Undocumented immigrants do not disturb other people's lives and actually benefit the United States by making the country more diverse. My mother and I are immigrants from Japan, and even though we are not illegal immigrants, we still understand the difficulty of becoming familiar with a new country and its environment. We first came to America because of the opportunities presented to us from the country. My mother took it and we moved to a completely unfamiliar surrounding. We did not know English and it was hard to communicate with others. This made my mother work much harder to achieve her goals and provide an amazing future for me. She was also able to help her company by receiving clients from Japan and communicating with them and connecting the two countries. Undocumented immigrants also come to America to find new opportunities and benefit their family. They have worked diligently and have improved our economy.

Undocumented immigrants come to the US to better their lives and the lives of their children. We must not deny them the opportunity to help the country and pursue their liberty. Please continue to support the sanctuary bill and create a safe area for undocumented immigrants to live.

Sincerely,
Ayaka Ohara



12101 Clarksville Pike, Clarksville, MD 21029
(410) 313-7120

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

March 2, 2017
Mary Kay Sigaty
George Howard Building 3430
Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov

Dear Mrs. Sigaty,

My name is Kathryn Li I am in the same district as you and I live in Howard County Maryland. I go to River Hill High School and I am eleventh grade student who wants you to take an opinion on the immigration issue.

I am very upset at the recent news that the Howard County Sanctuary Bill was vetoed at the Council meeting. Although I'm not sure what is your stand on this issue, I'm writing to urge you to stand firm on the immigration issues and support this bill if it is adequately amended. It is quite understandable that this is a passionately debated issue in Howard County and around entire country. Immigration is the foundation of United State because this country is known by the world as a "melting pot", built by immigrants, and a land of opportunity.

Immigration brings best minds and talents, as well as skilled workers at all levels, from all the world to the US, and therefore, allowing the US to be a leader in economics, science and technology. Immigrants bring their cultures and religions to enrich our culture.

Sanctuary cities are important because they not only are a show of humanity of our people and our country, but also provide protection for immigrants' rights. The sanctuary cities help improve relations between local law enforcement and the immigrant community. Illegal immigrants are more likely to work with law enforcement on crime or terrorist investigation if they are not afraid of deportation. My personal experiences also make me realize the importance of the immigrants. For example, because of immigrants, we are able to buy and eat all sorts of foods and dishes and enjoy the various cultures, such as the Chinese, Korean, Mexican, Arab, Japanese, Indian, Vietnamese, etc. Because of immigrants, we have our kitchen renovated by Mexican and Chinese, and entire floors in the house renovated by the Koreans. Therefore, immigrants are an essential and integral part of our day-to-day life.

In summary, I would like to urge you, Mrs Mary Kay Sigaty, being my District 4 representative, to take a firm stand for immigrants and push for a similar type of bill like the Howard sanctuary bill in the future because it is a great show of our humanity and generosity, as well as of importance to the economy of Howard County. Sanctuary cities are the best way to help protecting the immigrants' rights. From what I see and what I heard, without the hard working immigrants, it will be difficult for us to find workers for works such as home and office constructing and renovating, farming, car-repairing, House-keeping, etc. Howard County, as the sixth wealthiest county in the US, should set a good example to show the world our humanity and generosity. Together we can proudly say that we are making contributions to make our country a true Nation of Immigrants.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Li
12101 Clarksville Pike,
Clarksville, MD 21029
410) 313-7120

February 28, 2017

Dear Mary Kay Sigaty,

Hello, My name is Chase McGeehan and I am a 10th grade student at River Hill High School (District 4). I have heard that you are currently a Howard County councilwoman, and I would like to start off by saying that I greatly appreciate what you do for the county. As councilwoman, you serve a vital role in the decisions made in this county. Currently there has been an issue regarding the bill, referred to as the Sanctuary County Bill, that will make Howard County a sanctuary city. I assume you are well familiar of this.

I am writing to urge you to continue supporting the Sanctuary County Bill in Howard County. I totally agree with your views on this bill. This bill will be extending equal rights and protections to all individuals; recognizing the importance of accommodating culturally diverse contributions of foreign-born residents to social, academic, religious, cultural, and economic life in Howard County; and generally relating to human rights in Howard County. Howard County is a culturally diverse community that includes many foreign born residents, and by not making Howard County a Sanctuary City it could be considered a form of discrimination, which is strictly prohibited according to the U.S constitution. Ultimately others who are suffering around the world should be able to settle in here and support themselves in our community. Thank you for hearing my opinion and I would love to hear back from you.

Sincerely,

Chase McGeehan

12101 Clarksville Pike, Clarksville, MD 21029



2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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Dear, Ms. Mary Kay Sigaty

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:40

Hello, my name Yui Sakai. I am a foreign exchange student from Japan who attends to River Hill High School in district 4 of Howard County. I would like to thank you for all your hard work to make Howard County a better place to live. I am privileged to be living in this county and attending school here.

I am writing to urge you to continue your support of the Howard County Sanctuary Bill. I learned that while the bill was approved by the Howard County Council, the County executive will veto the bill. I ask you to continue our support the Sanctuary Bill because in my view many immigrants who have lived, went to school or worked in Howard County for many years have the right to continue to work and live in the United States and stay with their families until they are able to become legal citizens. I have learned that many illegal immigrant workers, such as the hispanics, work in jobs that support our agriculture and take on other jobs that many Americans are not interested in doing. They live and work here to support their family in the U.S. or back in their home country.

I strongly support this Sanctuary Bill. I urge you to vote to override a veto of this bill to help the many innocent hardworking immigrants currently living Howard County.

Thank you,

Yui Sakai



HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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March 3rd, 2017

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:43

The Honorable Greg Fox
Howard County Council District 5
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Honorable Councilman Fox,

My name is Ryan Van Gieson and I am a resident and a student in District 5 in Howard County, Maryland. I am writing to request that you continue to oppose CB9-2017, a bill which would prohibit county employees, including police, from asking about one's citizenship status.

I believe that while CB9-2017 and the movement to make Howard County a "sanctuary county" have good intentions, they will not make a difference in the way Howard County operates and interacts with immigrants, legal or not. CB9-2017 to some degree aims to prevent discrimination and unfair treatment of all immigrants, by all of Howard County, and not just the police. However, in my personal experiences all through school in Howard County and simply living in it, I have found that we are already very tolerant, accepting, accepting, and respectful of immigrants as a county. Everyone at school treats each other with respect across the lines of race and citizenship status. When it comes to immigrants, I believe that the county already shines by Choosing Civility.

In addition to the legislation being unnecessary, I feel that passing it will only polarize the county over the issue. Before the idea of becoming a "sanctuary county" was mentioned as a result of President Trump's campaign promises, there seemed to be little disagreement over how issues relating to undocumented immigrants were handled in Howard County. In my experience, other students at my school were far more willing to listen to each other and respect each other's ideas before such legislation was introduced. Now, however, students and others throughout the county seem to feel like anyone who holds an opposing view is either a traitor or an enemy. Personally, I feel that if CB9-2017 were to not pass, and if time were taken to let emotions cool off, then people would be far more willing to peacefully collaborate together. Thus, even with opposing views we all could create a better thought out, more-complete solution.

I urge you, should CB9-2017 be vetoed, to vote against it once more, and to recommend that the other council members do so as well. I feel that as a county, we already do well at respecting everyone and shielding undocumented immigrants from unfair treatment, such that CB9-2017 is unnecessary. I do not wish to see Howard County deeply divided over something that is not a major issue here.

Sincerely,

Ryan Van Gieson

Ryan Van Gieson
River Hill High School
12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, MD 21029

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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GF
JF
MS

February 28, 2017

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:44

Councilman Greg Fox
George Howard Building
1st Floor
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Councilman Fox,

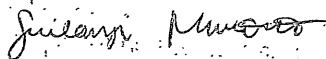
My name is Suwilanji Muwowo and I currently reside in District 4 and attend River Hill High School. As a minority and descendant of legal immigrants in your district, I am writing to oppose legislation CB9-2017, an act of designating Howard County sanctuary jurisdiction for undocumented immigrants. This allows for the obstruction of county police gathering information on citizenship during routine stops and promoting hindrance with federal law enforcement.

Regardless of public misconceptions, not all legal immigrants support the establishment of sanctuary cities for their illegal counterpart. The United States naturalization process is a lengthy and time consuming effort that numerous applicants are denied from. For those who complete this procedure, they feel pride that they have earned this honor. This feeling is a reality for many people, including my parents, who spent six years striving for that American citizenship. By allowing illegal immigrants to take shelter in our community, and only encouraging an influx of more immigrants, the honest immigrants in the public are denied a fair treatment. Their hard work is downplayed as having little to no importance.

This legislation would create tension between the state and federal government. The law enforcement are meant to work together for a common good, but with this legislation, it compromises the relationship that the county police has with the federal law enforcement. This will only prevent the knowlegde of illegal immigrants who engage in criminal acts.

Currently, without the integration of a sanctuary city in our community, cities that arrest illegal immigrants for crimes should be required to turn them over to federal authorities. This is the correct action for the county, in order to comply with the law, discouraging civil disobedience. You represent my voice, and all those who don't have a voice but share the same ideals. I urge you to continue the support on the dismissal of the sanctuary bill, voting no on the legislation.

Sincerely,



Suwilanji Clare Muwowo
(410)-313-7120
12101 Clarksville Pike
Clarksville, MD 21029

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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:44

March 3, 2017
George Howard Building 1st Floor
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Greg Fox,

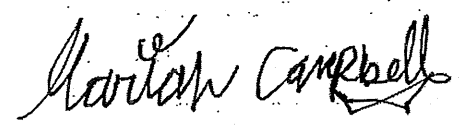
My name is Mariah Campbell, I am a sophomore at River Hill High School and live under district 5 Clarksville, MD. In two years I will be able to vote, but in the meantime I will write letters to politicians to express my concerns. I urge you to oppose the proposal of Howard county becoming a sanctuary city.

This bill has not been approved yet, but the deadline is quickly approaching. I understand you already opposed this bill saying it "undermines the hard work of immigrants who have obtained citizenship legally," and will be a "beacon for illegal immigrants." I agree, it is not fair for the immigrants who have worked hard to earn their citizenship because the ones who have not are getting the same benefits. It would act as a reward. But, they are illegal there should be consequences just like citizens who have done something illegal. Also, It would attract more illegal immigrants to this area and decrease the standard of living. I live close to Columbia so I know Howard County is a economically mixed community. However, a large amount of people on welfare is never economically good for any community. The taxpayers of Howard County would be the ones paying for the welfare, after all, millions of dollars were cut from Seattle's budget after they decided to stay a sanctuary city.

I advise you to stand sturdy on this decision because I think it's best for the county. Although I believe diversity is key for any county, i also believe that illegal actions should not be rewarded. I understand why people want to play the social justice warrior role, however, just because someone is desperate it doesn't make their actions right. I too wish these people who badly want to come to America to come, but I want them to do so legally and safely.

When it's time for the final decision, I urge you to vote no on Immigrant sanctuary proposal.

Sincerely,



Mariah Campbell
Student at River Hill High School
12101 Clarksville Pike,
Clarksville, MD 21029

JW
JF
MS

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED

2017 MAR 22 PM 1:43

George Howard Building
1st Floor
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov

Dear Jon Weinstein,

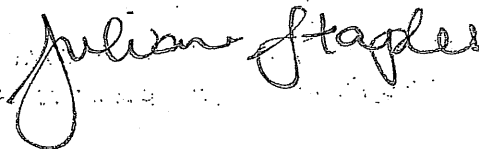
My name is Juliana Staples and I am a resident of Howard County District Five and a student at River Hill High School. I am writing to you on the subject of CB9-2017, the recent sanctuary county bill. I urge you to work with other city council members to come up with a bipartisan plan that protects immigrants without creating tension between the foreign born community and law enforcement.

I know that you voted no on CB9-2017 because it was purely symbolic and did not serve a real purpose or create meaningful change, and I fully understand. While I was reading the bill it did not strike me as legislation that would change any treatment of illegal immigrants. The essay that you wrote explaining your thoughts on the bill and why you voted no was extremely rational and I admire that. But when there is a bill that is purely symbolic, it should not be tossed aside but fixed so that it has an actual impact.

I am proud of my area and our diversity. Diversity in background and ways of thinking in the classroom and in my friend groups is important to developing complex ways of thinking. I know that many of my friends have family who have emigrated from the country from where they were born to work for a better life here in the United States. I feel that it is extremely important to protect that diversity and advocate for all people, and despite the fact that CB9-2017 does not accomplish that, we do need to aid illegal immigrants while not harming the pursuit of justice by our law enforcement officers. In many, many cases, deportation and detainment of illegal immigrants is inhumane and if we, as inhabitants of Howard County, cannot accept that.

I think that it is really best for a lawmaker to consider all sides of the story and to be considerate of the fact that legislation impacts real life. In the future, I plan to attend law school and possibly become a public servant, and I admire that trait and hope to emulate it if I take public office in the future. Thank you for your time!

Sincerely,
Juliana E. Staples
11699 Foxspur Court
Ellicott City, MD
21042



410 313 3297

CMBRs
JF
MS

March 3, 2017

Councilman Jon Weinstein

Dear Councilman -

Clearly, we face challenging issues and times in our country, and in Howard County as well and despite our wealth.

As a resident of Howard County, owner of a Howard County-based business, and concerned taxpayer, I wish you to know how I feel about CB9.

Whether we like it or not, our nation has come to rely on, and benefit from, the vast majority of the millions of undocumented immigrants living here. Most undocumented immigrants survived enormous risk and hardship to enter our country. Some felt forced to come here due to persecution, while many faced economic oppression that resulted in part from US economic policies that maximized profits for American corporations by ignoring basic human and environmental abuses and depressing wages of native workers. These policies made earning a decent living impossible, and, in effect, our government's policies drove millions to seeks a living wage here in the US.

Undocumented people are typically law-abiding and decent people who simply want to provide for their families. They should be accepted in Howard County, and allowed to live in safety and without fear of deportation or family disruption.

The fear created by President Trump's statements and policies is un-American, and I adamantly raise my voice in opposition to his hatred & distrust of immigrants.

I urge you to side with the real American values and voting to **override** the County Executive's veto of CB9.

Sincerely,

Ken Schaffer
Ellicott City, MD

RSchaffer24@gmail.com

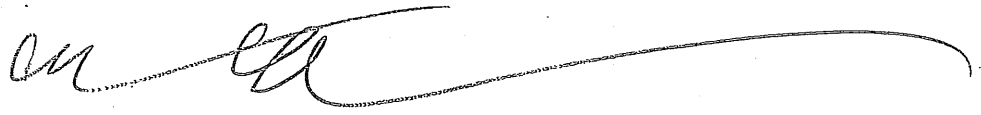
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March 3, 2017

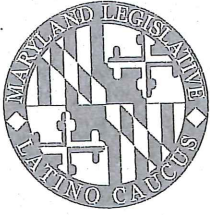
Dear Mary Kay Sigaty,

I am writing to attempt to persuade you to revoke your vote on Howard County becoming a sanctuary county. I believe that this is important to do because it will inhibit the ability of the police to find suspects and apprehend people that match the description without violating any of the rules that are imposed by the bill. This will also help when people are hiring for a job since they may be able to get more information regarding the new employee they wish to hire without violating any laws enforced by the bill. I hope that you will truthfully consider completing my request as I believe that it will improve many people's jobs and lives.

From,
Student Nolan Dietrich



2017 APR 11 PM 3:35
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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL



MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS

House Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Room 206 · Annapolis, Maryland 21401
Phone 410-841-3374 | 301-858-3374 · 800-492-7122 Ext. 3374 · Fax 410-841-3342 | 301-858-3342
latino.caucus@house.state.md.us · www.marylandlegislativelatinocaucus.com

JT, CB
JF
MS
CB9-2017

CARLO SANCHEZ, CHAIR
MARICÉ I. MORALES, VICE-CHAIR
JOSELINE A. PEÑA-MELNYK, TREASURER
DAVID FRASER-HIDALGO, SECRETARY

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

VICTOR R. RAMIREZ
ANA SOL GUTIÉRREZ

MICHELLE GARCÍA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

April 6, 2017

The Honorable Calvin Ball
3430 Court House Drive
George Howard Building
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

The Honorable Jen Terrasa
3430 Court House Drive
George Howard Building
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Dear Council Member Ball and Council Member Terrasa:

We send our deepest appreciation for your hard work and dedication to Marylanders. We thank you for your introduction of Bill No. 9-2017, during a time when our most vulnerable residents are being targeted. The Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus stands with you in support of our immigrant community. We look forward to collaborating with you in the future to better Maryland.

Respectfully,

Delegate Carlo Sanchez

2017 APR 11 PM 3:35

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HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

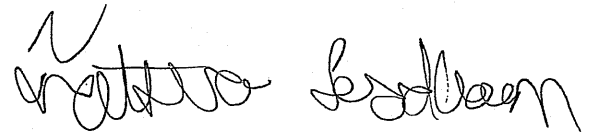
MKS
JF
MS

March 2, 2017

Dear Mrs. Sigati,

My name is Tatsuo Lerdboon and I am writing to hopefully persuade you to vote "no" on Howard County to become a sanctuary city. I know that you personally support this bill but I do not think this action will be good for Howard County as a whole. I think you should take my stance on this topic because of many reasons; our County could be seen as hostile to President Trump's actions, a lot of jobs in Howard County will be taken and less jobs will be available for the rest of the county citizens, and lastly, it will encourage illegal immigration, which is not fair for those who are legally documented. For my first reason regarding hostility, if the government outlaws sanctuary cities and if we continue to be a sanctuary city, then we will be known as a rebellious county which I believe will be bad for the reputation of Howard County. Also, Howard County will become less appealing to those looking for a good county to live in if we become rebellious to the executive order. Secondly, if a big portion of jobs are taken by illegal immigrants, many jobs will not be available and this will not be fair for those that follow the law. If I was looking for a job opportunity and I ended having a hard time looking for a job due to illegal immigrants, then I would personally be pretty annoyed because of the fact that I am a legal citizen and they are not. Finally, I personally do not believe that illegal immigration should be allowed, and by doing this, illegal immigration will only be encouraged, which is also unfair to those that are legally documented. And with the supposed increase of illegal immigration, the US could become a far less safer place. With these explanations, I hope that I at least made you rethink your stance on this issue, since I believe that an issue as big as this requires the thought process of identifying the pros and cons of both stances. Please also note that I deeply appreciate your work of representing my district of Howard County that I live in, and I also think that your job is very interesting. Thank you for taking the time to read over my message and make sure to keep doing what you do!

From,
Tatsuo Lerdboon



2017 APR 11 PM 3:33

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL
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