

CB 51-2020

Sayers, Margery

From: Ruth Nimmo <ruthnimmo77@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 10:09 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony Supporting CB 51

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to you in support of CB 51 which would end the Howard County contract with ICE to house ICE detainees.

With ICE's presence in Howard County, immigrants are less likely to cooperate with county police and less likely to report crimes, making everyone less secure. Many undocumented immigrants in Howard County work, pay state and federal taxes, and contribute to the community, yet many live in fear of detention and deportation.

I support a national effort to re-write our Immigration laws to make it easier for people from other countries to come here legally and become citizens. We benefit as a society from the diversity of thought, creativity, and contributions of people from around the world. While Howard County cannot, on its own, change federal policy, it can refuse to support or implement it. Social and legal change begins here at home. Local political action puts pressure on national leaders to change laws. We have an obligation to our foreign born friends and neighbors in Howard County to work against cruel and unjust policies and practices. Howard County should be at the forefront of efforts to achieve social and racial justice, not in the rear.

Please support CB 51.

Best Regards,

Ruth Nimmo
10001 Windstream Drive, Apt. 805
Columbia, MD 21044
410-531-0661

Sayers, Margery

From: Melissa Andrade <melyandra11@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:35 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: End ICE

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this for Calvin Ball and Opel Jones to support CB51. End the Howard County contract with ICE and dismantle institutional racism. Protects those you make up and contribute this this community, and deserve for their voices to be heard as well.

Thank you!

Sincerely,

Melissa A.

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Sayers, Margery

From: Jill Clark-Gollub <jill@clarkgollub.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 6:06 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony for CB51-2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council Members:

I am writing to urge you to fully support CB51-2020 to END Howard County's contract with ICE. The very limited nature of the bill seems to me uncontroversial: "AN ACT prohibiting the Howard County Department of Corrections from accepting into its custody persons detained by federal immigration law enforcement agencies and housing those persons as they await disposition of **exclusively immigration-related proceedings.**"

As you have probably observed on your own, our area is full of hard-working immigrants who have come here seeking refuge from violence and poverty at home. They are decent people committed to their families, and largely fill jobs that many American citizens are unwilling to do. Incarcerating them for committing no crime other than entering our country without a visa is patently unjust and counterproductive, as it leaves people unable to provide for their families and causes trauma to children and other relatives. It also creates an underclass of people who are less likely to report crimes or cooperate with law enforcement for fear of jail or deportation, which in turn makes our communities less safe. And keeping people awaiting immigration proceedings in jail prevents them from paying their bills or for attorney's fees, perpetuating a cycle of poverty.

This practice is also inherently racist. Black and brown people are far more likely to be targeted for immigration violations than white immigrants. Soon our society will come to see that immigrant detention is just as immoral and racist as Jim Crow laws. Please stand on the right side of history and help to stop this practice. I live in Montgomery county Maryland and do not want my state participating in the unconscionable practice of jailing my neighbors simply for visa violations.

Sincerely,
Jill Clark-Gollub
Silver Spring, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Jason Siegel <jbsiegel5@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 3:23 PM
To: Ball, Calvin; CouncilMail; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; Jones, Opel
Subject: Testimony for CB 51 - 2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

To whom it may concern,

I'm emailing to demand that Howard County divests from ICE. The current immigration policies are heartless. They tear families apart and destroy the lives of people who have lived and worked peacefully in the United States for decades.

We shouldn't use Howard County's greatly needed tax dollars to enforce ICE's racist policies, especially in this health and economic emergency.

Thank you for your time,

Jason Siegel
5082 Durham Rd West
Columbia, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Anika Jensen <anikasjensen@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 2:09 PM
To: CouncilMail; Ball, Calvin; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: Testimony for CB51-2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good afternoon,

I am writing today to urge you to vote for CB 51-2020 and end Howard County's contract with ICE. Howard County is extraordinary because of its diversity, tolerance, and sense of community, and a contract with ICE makes us complicit in a cruel system of injustice that targets black and brown immigrants. ICE has routinely torn families apart; their detentions facilities are sites of COVID outbreaks, and the accusations against ICE officers of sexual abuse and mass hysterectomies indicate a doctrine of cruelty that is inherently antithetical to Howard County's values. It is clear that ICE does not keep American safe; instead, it terrorizes immigrants and at-risk groups.

As a Jewish woman whose family was annihilated in the Holocaust, I would be remiss if I did not speak out against the injustices faced by black and brown immigrants, the same injustices my ancestors faced only 80 years ago. ICE has repeatedly violated the Geneva conventions and, if left unchecked, will continue to perpetuate racially motivated devastation.

Please consider the black and brown immigrants who make Howard County great and vote to cut ties with ICE. Justice starts with communities.

Regards,
Anika Jensen

Sayers, Margery

From: Alex Kohn <alex.kohn76@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 15, 2020 9:25 AM
To: CouncilMail; Jones, Opel; Walsh, Elizabeth; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David
Subject: End Howard County ICE Contract

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Council Members Liz Walsh, Deb Jung, and Christiana Rigby,
Thank you Councilwoman Walsh for writing the bill to end the unnecessary detainment of immigrants in our county, and thank you all for supporting this legislation. It is the duty of the government to protect the most vulnerable members of society and I'm glad that someone in Howard County was brave enough to stand up when they were needed.

Thank you so much for your support of this bill,
Alex

Dear Council Member Opel Jones,

As a resident of district 2, I am saddened to hear that you still have not taken a position on this essential issue. When you ran for County Council you championed the rights of immigrants and had overwhelming support because you were willing to stand up for what is right. Every day that you refuse to take action, you are putting the lives of people in danger. Locking people in prison during a highly contagious and deadly pandemic is negligent, and your inaction makes you responsible for everyone who becomes sick or dies in the Howard County detention center. The fact that you continue to work with a racist organisation goes against everything you have claimed to value in the past.

The continuation of this contract hurts our county every day. You spend hundreds of thousands of dollars every year to imprison overwhelmingly non-violent, essential members of the society we live in, and you add a burden to the lives of immigrant families who are already in a difficult situation. How would you feel if you were a child, only able to call your father on the phone for a total of 1 hour per week? How would you feel if you were thrown in jail while trying to support your family, knowing that they won't be able to make ends meet? You and I both know that ICE disproportionately arrests black and brown immigrants without any convictions or only non-violent convictions. The most common offence was a traffic violation.

By continuing this racist contract during a pandemic that is likely to continue for several years, you sentence people to death for a speeding ticket. You are responsible for every death, illness, and injury that occurs within our ICE detention center. Do not walk away from this issue while members of our community are suffering. Stand up for what is right like you used to. Do not bow down to the establishment because it is easy, take a stand and do not be afraid to help the people who need you the most.

You may have been very busy over the last year or two, so I linked some articles below so you can catch up with what's been happening.

[U.S Loses Track of Another 1,500 Migrant Children](#)
[A COVID-19 outbreak unfolded in Virginia after ICE flew immigration detainees there so agents could be shipped to the nation's capital in response to protests](#)
[Immigrant Kids Keep Dying in CBP Detention Centers, and DHS Won't Take Accountability](#)

[How Racial Profiling Goes Unchecked in Immigration Enforcement](#)
[Whistleblower Alleges Mass Hysterectomies at ICE Detention Center](#)

Anyone with an ounce of humanity can agree that we should not be working with ICE. I wish you still cared.

- Alex

Dear Council Member David Yungmann,

I am very concerned by your opposition to this bill. This bill is essential to save lives and create a more welcoming Howard County. As a council member you are the face of the county. What does it say to the residents of our county that you want innocent people in prison? Not only does this bill help protect the rights of immigrants in the county, it is also fiscally responsible. We pay 8 dollars per person per day to keep immigrants in detention in the Jessup facility. That means the county spends over \$100,000 every year; can't you think of better things to do with that money?

Thanks,
Alex

Sayers, Margery

From: Richard Ochs <rjochs@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 10:54 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CB51-2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear H.C. Council,

Please vote for CB51-2020 to end the county contract with ICE. I often shop in Howard County, but I will not spend a penny there as long as you have a contract with ICE. I will tell my friends as well.

Richard Ochs
Baltimore

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2020 8:58 AM
To: Lisa.j.dickson@gmail.com
Subject: District 3 - HB 51

First Name: Lisa
Last Name: Dickson
Email: Lisa.j.dickson@gmail.com
Street Address: 9130 Bryant Ave
City: Laurel
Subject: HB 51

Message:

Hello, I've lived in your district for 20 years and I vote in all the elections. I wanted to write today to explain that I support HB 51. I feel that immigrant offers a lot to our community. Most of our ancestors were immigrants, mine came here on a wing and a prayer from Europe. I know something about the Jessup Detention because I was visiting an inmate there for several months through the DC visitation network, (an excellent program). I saw how harshly they treat people in there, many of whom are not criminals, but whom ICE decides they are. I consider them to be political prisoners. The first time my friend was first put in solitary was because he was translating Spanish and English for two men who were fighting. The second time he went to solitary he'd been trying to help a friend who was being abused by MS 13. He tried to help his friend and got beaten. After that he was kept in there for several months. I was able to speak to him for 30 minutes a week on video. He wasn't given medical treatment and had worse food than those in general population. It was also restricted calories. At some point he was transferred to a state prison in NY where the conditions were much improved. After a year of incarceration, away from his children he was released of criminal charges and won his immigration trial. It is my understanding from talking to people who have been held there that many of the men there are not criminals and it's a dangerous place to be. In addition I feel that we should not be cooperating with ICE at all. We should not be separating families. We are better than this! Many of the people who are held there would be released if they were able to afford good attorneys. My friend had the good fortune to have an excellent lawyer, if not for that he would have been deported. I saw this first hand. We are a nation of immigrants and I support HB 51. I voted for you and I care how you vote on this bill. Thank you for reading my letter.

Sayers, Margery

From: Claudia Russell <cjrussell@erols.com>
Sent: Saturday, September 12, 2020 3:07 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Bill CB5 - Comments
Attachments: Howard County .pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Please see the attached. Thank you. Claudia Russell

September 12, 2020

Dear Howard County Council Members;

RE: Bill CB5 - a bill to stop the Howard County Department of Corrections from accepting individuals detained by federal immigration law enforcement agencies introduced by County Council Vice Chair Liz Walsh.

We understand that legislation has been introduced requesting that the Howard County Detention Center, located in Jessup, no longer house individuals as they await disposition in exclusively immigration-related proceedings. We applaud and fully endorse this legislation. We have visited the Detention Center for the past two plus years which unfortunately has been curtailed due to Covid-19. Our visits with the detainees, through the secure visitor center, are part of our ministry with the Washington National Cathedral Sanctuary Ministry.

We have visited individuals who have committed no criminal act but rather a civil act of entering the country without authorization or presenting themselves at a port of entry seeking asylum. They include persons who have fled their countries due to life threatening experiences such as uncontrolled gang violence in their home countries. They had no choice but to seek safety here in the US. Those we met have created "American" lives after residing here for many years. They have jobs, families and contributed to their communities and this country. As you know, many of them also have US citizen children and spouses and deserve to be with their families.

Covid19 has increased the desperation of the detainees and their families. With detainees crowded together and without the ability to social distance as well as the ICE policy to transfer detainees among the many detention centers, the risk of COVID-19 is extreme.

For a better understanding of the ICE response to immigrants, we recommend viewing the 6 episode documentary on Netflix, *Immigrant Nation*. Journalists were above-cover and embedded with ICE agents for 3 years. It visually tells the dehumanizing stories of the actions ICE has taken against hundreds of thousands of immigrants. These ICE actions are tearing apart our humanity. As people of faith and leaders of the Washington National Cathedral Sanctuary Ministry, we are appalled at these actions against those who have already suffered enormously in their home countries. We are not a cruel nation.

The effort of Howard County to stop providing detention beds for ICE constitutes a step in rebuilding our humanity and living with kindness and goodwill by treating our neighbors as ourselves. It also will be viewed as a check to ICE to reconsider their actions against our neighbors. Thank you for raising this issue and for taking our thoughts into consideration when you debate this important matter.

Respectfully,

Dora Currea

Martin Dickinson
Claudia Russell
Co-chairs, Washington National Cathedral Sanctuary Ministry

Committee
cc. Calvin Ball, County Executive

Sayers, Margery

From: Elizabeth Alex <ealex@wearecasa.org>
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Jung, Deb; Walsh, Elizabeth; Rigby, Christiana; Jones, Opel; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail; Jones, Diane; Glendenning, Craig; Williams, China; Gick, Ginnie; Dvorak, Nicole; Gelwicks, Colette; Facchine, Felix; Harris, Michael; Alston, Ashley; Knight, Karen; Skalny, Cindy; Sidh, Sameer; Jones, Jennifer D.; Manley, Josh
Subject: Message from CASA
Attachments: CASA Letter to Howard County Council 9.11.2020.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

9/11/2020

Howard County Council
Drive

3430 Courthouse
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Council members,

Howard County has long been recognized as a place where diversity is embraced and celebrated. Over 20% of our residents hail from Latino and Asian first and second generation immigrant families, and they play a critical role in every facet of our County's economy and social fabric. Despite this long standing attitude of welcoming and celebrating immigrants, Howard County's absence of critical policies to ensure trust between immigrant communities and county government is notable. Further, the presence of a formal contract between the County and the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency sends a chilling and contradictory message to immigrant communities.

Over the last few years, the national climate for immigrants has grown increasingly harsh. Rhetoric scapegoating immigrants and a mischaracterization of the root causes of immigration have fueled an increase in hate crimes against Latinos and immigrants over the last 5 years. Federal policy directives aimed at increasing and fast tracking the detention and deportation of immigrants, combined with harsh tactics of detaining children and forcibly separating young children from their parents, have drawn the national spotlight. As the County Executive said in a recent communication to the council, "The way immigration has been weaponized at the federal level in recent years is troubling and unacceptable."

As the changing national climate and policies around immigration have increasingly encroached upon our values and beliefs at the local level, Howard County residents, both immigrants and allies, have spoken up urging our local government to step up in leadership and solidarity with immigrant communities. The peaceful protests, vigils, community forums and conversations convened by religious and educational institutions have demonstrated the urgency for Howard County to join all of the other large jurisdictions in Maryland by rejecting outright and unlimited collaboration with ICE through formal policy. With 1430 members in Howard County, CASA has been deeply engaged in bringing our members together with key stakeholders – including all of you and the County Executive - to work toward policy solutions that would demonstrate our County's ongoing commitment to immigrants in an increasingly harsh national climate.

We identified two critical policy changes that would bring Howard County in line with other large counties in Maryland in welcoming immigrants: 1) Establishing a clear policy limiting collaboration and communication

between county agencies and ICE, along the lines of TRUST policies established and reiterated via legislation and executive orders in Baltimore City and Montgomery, Prince Georges, and Baltimore Counties in recent years. 2) Eliminating the long standing bed rental contract between the county and ICE, similar to steps taken in Anne Arundel county that resulted in dissolution of the 287(g) and IGSA contracts there since 2018.

We have appreciated sincere and open dialogue with each of you and with the County Executive's office, and with the steps many of you have taken to publicly stand with immigrants in Howard County. Our team at CASA has been working in close collaboration with the County Executive's team to develop policy language that we think will be a strong first step in advancing these goals. We would love to meet with each of you in the coming days to review this policy language and also discuss other ways that Howard County can continue to support immigrants in our community.

Thank you again for your continued engagement on this issue. We look forward to working with you to make sure that Howard County continues to be a welcoming place for immigrants. Feel free to reach out to Elizabeth Alex at ealex@wearecasa.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Gustavo Torres, Executive Director

CASA

Elizabeth Alex | Chief of Organizing and Leadership

She/Ella

CASA and CASA in Action

o. [410.732.7777](tel:410.732.7777)

c. [443.802.2933](tel:443.802.2933)

e. ealex@wearecasa.org

www.wearecasa.org

9/11/2020

Howard County Council
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Dear Council members,

Howard County has long been recognized as a place where diversity is embraced and celebrated. Over 20% of our residents hail from Latino and Asian first and second generation immigrant families, and they play a critical role in every facet of our County's economy and social fabric. Despite this long standing attitude of welcoming and celebrating immigrants, Howard County's absence of critical policies to ensure trust between immigrant communities and county government is notable. Further, the presence of a formal contract between the County and the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency sends a chilling and contradictory message to immigrant communities.

Over the last few years, the national climate for immigrants has grown increasingly harsh. Rhetoric scapegoating immigrants and a mischaracterization of the root causes of immigration have fueled an increase in hate crimes against Latinos and immigrants over the last 5 years. Federal policy directives aimed at increasing and fast tracking the detention and deportation of immigrants, combined with harsh tactics of detaining children and forcibly separating young children from their parents, have drawn the national spotlight. As the County Executive said in a recent communication to the council, "The way immigration has been weaponized at the federal level in recent years is troubling and unacceptable."

As the changing national climate and policies around immigration have increasingly encroached upon our values and beliefs at the local level, Howard County residents, both immigrants and allies, have spoken up urging our local government to step up in leadership and solidarity with immigrant communities. The peaceful protests, vigils, community forums and conversations convened by religious and educational institutions have demonstrated the urgency for Howard County to join all of the other large jurisdictions in Maryland by rejecting outright and unlimited collaboration with ICE through formal policy. With 1430 members in Howard County, CASA has been deeply engaged in bringing our members together with key stakeholders – including all of you and the County Executive - to work toward policy solutions that would demonstrate our County's ongoing commitment to immigrants in an increasingly harsh national climate.

We identified two critical policy changes that would bring Howard County in line with other large counties in Maryland in welcoming immigrants: 1) Establishing a clear policy limiting collaboration and communication between county agencies and ICE, along the lines of TRUST policies established and reiterated via legislation and executive orders in Baltimore City and Montgomery, Prince Georges, and Baltimore Counties in recent years. 2) Eliminating the long standing bed rental contract between the county and ICE, similar to steps taken in Anne Arundel county that resulted in dissolution of the 287(g) and IGSA contracts there since 2018.

We have appreciated sincere and open dialogue with each of you and with the County Executive's office, and with the steps many of you have taken to publicly stand with immigrants in Howard County. Our team at CASA has been working in close collaboration with the County Executive's team to develop policy language that we think will be a strong first step in advancing these goals. We would love to meet with each of you in the coming days to review this policy language and also discuss other ways that Howard County can continue to support immigrants in our community.

Thank you again for your continued engagement on this issue. We look forward to working with you to make sure that Howard County continues to be a welcoming place for immigrants. Feel free to reach out to Elizabeth Alex at ealex@wearecasa.org with any questions.

Sincerely,

Gustavo Torres, Executive Director

CASA

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 10:03 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: Fw: County Bill No. 51-2020

From: Susanna Sung <susanna.s.sung@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 10:22 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: County Bill No. 51-2020

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Dr. Jones,

As you know, Howard County has a contract with ICE to detain immigrants in the Jessup jail. I am calling on your vote for CB 51-2020 to end this contract TODAY because:

1. **Howard County's contract with ICE makes us complicit in a cruel and unjust system.** The current immigration policies are heartless and unjust, routinely tearing families apart and deporting people who have lived and worked peacefully in the United States for decades. Collaborating with this system is inconsistent with Howard County's stated values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. We should not be using our much needed tax dollars to enforce ICE's racist policies, especially in this health and economic emergency.
2. **ICE practices racial profiling, targeting Black and Brown immigrants.** Almost all the detainees in the Jessup jail are from Mexico, Central America, and Africa.
3. **Howard County detains men who have not committed or been convicted of violent crimes.** The Department of Corrections accepts detainees charged with "any jailable offence" which includes minor traffic violations and possession of small amounts of marijuana. The County detains people who have been charged but not convicted, and people who have already served their complete sentences in jail or prison.
4. **While incarcerated, detainees cannot easily find or pay for competent legal representation.** It is much harder to find a lawyer from inside the detention center than in the community. While Howard County has many lawyers, there is no evidence that detainees at the Jessup jail are more likely to have legal representation than detainees in other facilities.
5. **Continuing the contract with ICE makes Howard County less safe.** With ICE's presence in Howard County, immigrants are less likely to cooperate with county police and less likely to report crimes, making everyone less secure. Many undocumented immigrants in Howard County work, pay state and federal taxes, and contribute to the community, yet many live in fear of detention and deportation.
6. **There are proven alternatives to detention.** For decades, immigrants facing deportation could continue living and working in the community while they waited for their hearings. Alternatives to detention include parole/release on own recognizance, check-ins at ICE offices, home visits and check-ins, telephone monitoring, and GPS monitoring through electronic ankle bracelets.
7. **Change has to start here. We cannot wait for Washington to act.** While Howard County cannot, on its own, change federal policy, it can refuse to support or implement it. Social and legal change begins here at home. Local political action puts pressure on national leaders to change laws. We have an obligation to our foreign-born friends and neighbors in Howard County to work against cruel and unjust policies and practices. Howard County should be at the forefront of efforts to achieve social and racial justice, not in the rear.
8. **Detention tears families apart.** Families are broken up by detaining men at the Howard County Detention

Center (HCDC) who are fathers and breadwinners. Family members of detainees often cannot pay rent, get evicted, lose jobs, and suffer other hardships.

Thank you for being on the right side of history.

Your constituent,
Susanna Sung
9455 Sargossa Place
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Abby McAuliffe <alwaysabby317@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, September 11, 2020 8:00 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Testimony for CB 51

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good morning,

Howard County has a contract with ICE to detain immigrants in the Jessup jail. We are calling upon the County Executive, Calvin Ball, and the County Council to vote for CB 51-2020 and end this contract NOW in order to make our county, state, and country, places that live up to their promise of justice and compassion.

Howard County's contract with ICE makes us complicit in a cruel and unjust system. The current immigration policies are heartless and immoral. Collaborating with this system is inconsistent with the Howard County that raised me to believe in values of diversity, equity, and inclusion. In order to truly live those values, we must end this contract, which routinely tears families apart and deports people who have lived and worked peacefully in the United States for decades. Howard County should not be using our much needed tax dollars to enforce ICE's racist policies, especially in this health and economic emergency.

When I expressed concern about Howard's contract with ICE earlier this year, I was told that this wasn't an issue, because no women or children are detained through this contract. However, this deflection does not address that the men being detained are entitled to rights and liberties, in addition to deserving our mercy and compassion. Justice is not restricted by age or gender. The men detained have not committed or been convicted of violent crimes. The Department of Corrections accepts detainees charged with "any jailable offence" which includes minor traffic violations. The County also detains people who have been charged but not convicted, and people who have already served their complete sentences in jail or prison.

Furthermore, this shows a lack of understanding (or perhaps willful ignorance) about how the detention of these men affects their families and communities as well. Families are broken up by detaining men at the Howard County Detention Center (HCDC) who are fathers and breadwinners. Family members of detainees often cannot pay rent, get evicted, lose jobs, and suffer other hardships. With ICE's presence in Howard County, immigrants are less likely to cooperate with county police and less likely to report crimes, making the entire community less secure. Many undocumented immigrants in Howard County work, pay state and federal taxes, and contribute to the community, yet many live in fear of detention and deportation.

There are proven alternatives to detention. For decades, immigrants facing deportation could continue living and working in the community while they waited for their hearings. Alternatives to detention include parole/release on own recognizance, home visits and check-ins, telephone monitoring, and GPS monitoring through electronic ankle bracelets. I firmly believe amnesty and asylum should be granted liberally where it is applicable.

Change has to start here. We cannot wait for Washington to act. While Howard County cannot, on its own, change federal policy, it can refuse to support or implement it. Social and legal change begins here at home. Local political action puts pressure on national leaders to change laws. I have an obligation to my neighbors in Howard County to work against cruel and unjust policies and practices. You have that responsibility too. Howard County should be at the forefront of efforts to achieve social and racial justice, not in the rear.

Hyattsville, Rickville, Riverdale Park, Baltimore City, Montgomery County, Greenbelt, Colmar Manor, Norfolk, Anne Arundel County, Forest Heights, Prince George's County, Cheverly, Annapolis, Mt. Rainer, Brentwood, and Prince William County have all said no to ICE. Howard County must stand with them, on the right side of history.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Abby McAuliffe
10325 Twinedew Place
Columbia, MD 21044

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 4:52 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: Fw: Support CB-51

From: Anna Rubin <airubin@umbc.edu>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 4:22 PM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Support CB-51

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Councilman Jones, I urge you to support CB-51. I am in your district and hope you understand how important this legislation is.

Dr. Anna Rubin (She/Her)
6268 Cobbler Court, Columbia MD 21045
annarubinmusic.com
soundcloud.com/annarubinmusic

Sayers, Margery

From: Richard Kohn <richardakohn@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 2:32 PM
To: Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Re: End contracts with ICE

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Mr. Yungmann,

Time has shown that the reasons I gave previously for closing the ICE Detention Center have now been shown to have been correct. I expect you will vote yes on CB-51.

The main reason you opposed ending the ICE contract earlier was because you believed the contract was a money maker for the County even though it wasted our federal tax dollars. We now know that the County is losing money on housing immigrants in the Detention Center. How does one justify taking money from programs needed in the County at this time of severe economic austerity to use on a program that doesn't address a County issue at all? In fact most of the inmates don't even come from Howard County. Furthermore, unnecessarily putting men in prison prevents them from working and supporting their families.

You also state that these prisoners are "dangerous" to our County and we are better off with them in jail. However, most of these detainees are not from Howard County. This money-losing program is bringing in immigrants from throughout the country.

But more importantly, most of the detainees have been shown not to be violent criminals but rather people who were detained for non-violent offenses or no offense other than visa violations. In the case of those who were convicted of criminal offenses, they have served their time. We have a word in this country to describe people who have not been convicted of a crime whether accused or not, it also describes people who have been rehabilitated. They are called "innocent."

The US has the highest per capita prison population of any country in the world by far. We would have to go back 30 years to find a time when any other country's prison population was similar to ours. And then, it was the countries of the Soviet Union and apartheid South Africa that were similar. We know what happened there, but in the mean time, the US further militarized the police, expanded the drug war including the CIA pushing crack cocaine in the inner cities to fund war in Central America (It was all documented in Congressional investigations), implemented programs like "Stop and Frisk" and "Three Strikes", and passed the Crime Bill. Both Republican and Democratic politicians have escalated incarceration and targeted Black and Brown people. ICE mostly detains Black and Brown immigrants from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America, and Africa even though overstaying ones visa is a common occurrence among Canadians. ICE Detention is just another excuse to put people in jail because of their race and origin. We already have an enormous prison system for criminals, and too many people in those prisons, we do not need to also have a prison for innocent people of color.

It seems that it is highly inconsistent with Republican Party values to waste money on a federal program that prevents people from working and supporting their families. It is also not in the interest of the County to bring in immigrants from other parts of the country to this prison. Immigration is a national and international issue, not a County issue. The County should not be carrying out a racist federal policy at its own expense. Once someone has served their time, they should not be given additional jail time because of their race, country of origin, or immigration status.

Richard Kohn

On Dec 9, 2019, at 7:27 PM, Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov> wrote:

Mr. Kohn,

I couldn't even get past your second sentence without reading the first misstatement and most of this email makes assertions that even my most liberal leaning friends wouldn't suggest. I doubt any of my responses below will change your perspective, but I'll give facts one more chance and again encourage you to do some research on the Howard Co facility and county policies. It's an important issue that deserves rational discussion of facts.

David Yungmann
Howard County Council – District 5
(410) 313-2001
<https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Districts/District-5>

From: Richard A. Kohn <rkohn@umd.edu>
Sent: Monday, December 9, 2019 9:37 AM
To: Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>; CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Re: End contracts with ICE

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Mr. Yungmann (and County Council),

Thank you for your response regarding Howard County contracts with ICE. Contrary to your comments that putting innocent people in jail is a wonderful opportunity for the County to make money, You apparently didn't read the criteria that I sent, all four of which are pretty different than innocent people.

I doubt the County actual makes money. First, the millions of dollars received is gross income to the county, but it also costs millions of dollars to jail innocent people in ICE detention in Howard County. The County may well be losing money. I understand that you wish it lost money so you could justify your position, but it does. Extensive analysis of the contract has been done due to public's interest in the topic. The previous Council or the current County Exec would have eliminated had it not provided important funding for other corrections programs.

Furthermore, the money provided by ICE ultimately comes from US taxpayers so the citizens of Howard County are ultimately paying disproportionately for it. If you have an issue with the use of your Federal taxes write to Congress. If ICE didn't have a contract with us they would with another county. The violent prisoners need to be detained somewhere.

Regarding the prison, how many of the immigrant detainees did you speak to when you visited the ICE detention facility? Did you ask if they are provided opportunities for education, recreation, etc.? Everyone in the Howard Co unit are provided with those programs.

Did you visit the child detention facilities in other states also? We are discussing a county program. The only facility I'm familiar with is McAllen that was converted to a child holding facility in 2014. It's apparently nicer than an adult detention center but still not a great place.

Of course, a part of my objection is that ICE is an outlaw organization which violates US and international law and the County should not be assisting them. I have spoken with former immigrant detainees of the Howard County ICE detention center, and their stories contradict what Calvin Ball and associates are saying. It would appear that none of the detainees are criminals. That is frankly absurd. I'm sure every prisoner in that facility claims they didn't do it but there are multiple checks and balances to ensure these people meet the criteria. One we discussed during our tour was deported twice only to re-enter, had open warrants for crimes in I believe two states, is covered in MS-13 tattoos and was convicted of raping a 6 year old family member for several months.

In the most serious cases, they have completed their sentences and should be released because of this. The average stay in the ICE unit is 4 months. It's a temporary detention spot that gives prisoners better access to family members and their attorneys. They ultimately leave for State or Federal prisons.

Others in the prison were never even accused of a crime, let alone arrested and tried. Some of these prisoners were released after more than a year in detention because immigration courts found them to have been detained without cause. Again I wish you would have done some research. Nobody being detained on an immigration violation only is eligible to be held. There are other counties in Central MD that do allow immigration detainees to be held while they await trial.

All of these people are housed together without adequate protection from more dangerous members, and they are housed together with alleged gangs (which would be a helpful recruiting tool for the gangs). They have a system in place to separate prisoners in I believe 3 different risk levels but I imagine some get placed incorrectly.

Use of isolation for non-offenses is excessive. I agree. There is only one small group of cells used for isolation which has been stripped down to protect prisoners on suicide watch.

With respect to immigrants, the facility does not even meet minimal requirements for detention. For example, exercise time is not consistently provided, there are few books and almost no books approved for non-English speakers, access to internet and law documents is not provided and many of these individuals need to prepare for their own cases because they can't afford a lawyer and are not provided a court-appointed attorney. But, irrespective of how good or bad the conditions are in the ICE detention facility, or whether the County makes money or not, the County should not be keeping non-violent innocent people in a jail. The library in the detention center is full of books, as it is actually a branch of the HoCo library system. I can't comment on the number of foreign language books but I did observe different sections by language. There are 3 PCs with full access to Lexis-Nexis (a pretty expensive system to license) and apparently many of the prisoners have taken in interest in law either for their own cases or in general. There are several large activity yards and indoor activity spaces that were in use when I visited. I don't recall asking if any were ICE prisoners. I did go into an ICE unit during lunch and spoke with a few of the prisoners but not much was going on since it was lunch time.

An additional issue is that immigrants in Howard County are afraid to contact the police, go to the hospital, and are even afraid of receiving library services, or sending children to school and receiving educational services. The collusion of County Agencies with the illegal ICE organization, and the

potential for collusion of County workers with ICE contributes to these fears. As racial profiling is illegal in Howard County, County agencies must stop assisting ICE with racial profiling in the County. The fact that many of our residents are afraid to call the police when they are witnesses or targets of crime makes them more likely to be victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, and gang activity. The County's cooperation with ICE violates the rights of Howard County residents, and makes us all less safe. Every agency in Howard County has a consistent written policy of not asking about immigration status. That written policy prohibits contact with ICE. Howard Co has placed zero prisoners in the ICE unit. The prisoners are detained by ICE and are eligible to be housed in Howard Co based on those 4 criteria. That doesn't mean that some are afraid to report crimes, but that fear is being made worse by folks who misrepresent the policies of the county. There are notices all over the community non-profits, police stations and county buildings letting people know they are safe to report crimes. Instead of spreading untruths, you might want to help these neighbors understand the policies so they aren't as scared.

As the only Republican on the County Council, you may believe your party expects you to support policies that harm immigrants. The Trump Administration certainly would approve of your stance. This contract does not harm immigrants.

However, many Republicans support fiscal responsibility. There is nothing fiscally conservative about carrying out a contract for the Federal government that costs the County more than it returns, not true

prevents able US residents from working to support their families not true

, and ultimately increases both County and Federal taxes. Yes, dealing with illegal immigration is expensive which is why I prefer a secure border.

Many Republicans appeal to libertarian values, but there is nothing libertarian about putting innocent people in jail (or for that matter unnecessarily restricting where they live or work).Not true

You could certainly justify opposition to the County's policy. We have policy disagreements with people on different polices all the time and my only real expectation is that people debate facts not wild conjecture. But we all end up engaging people who are so passionately committed to their position they don't want to research the facts or will reject them if they don't line up. Thanks for your emails and discussion.

End all contracts with ICE.

Rick Kohn
5218 Wood Stove Lane
Columbia, MD 21045

On Dec 8, 2019, at 10:37 AM, Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov> wrote:

Mr. Kohn I encourage you to do some research on the Howard County contract with ICE. I actually toured the facility last week and gained a much better understanding of its operations including the facts on the ICE contract. The detention center operates well below capacity excluding the ICE prisoners, so this contract generates significant income to the county for space that would be

sitting empty. That income funds a myriad of other valuable programs that help rehabilitate other detainees including mental health, substance abuse and education. In order for ICE to house a prisoner in Howard Co, the individual must meet one of 4 criteria. These are not ordinary working people going about their business. They are real bad guys, most of which are the highest level criminals in the county facility, and the community is safer with them in jail. Here's more info if you'd like to research

further: <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/Departments/Corrections/The-Facilities/Detention-Center>

David Yungmann
Howard County Council – District 5
(410) 313-2001
<https://cc.howardcountymd.gov/Districts/District-5>

From: Richard A. Kohn <rkohn@umd.edu>
Sent: Monday, December 2, 2019 8:12 PM
To: CouncilMail <CouncilMail@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: End contracts with ICE

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear Councilman Opel Jones:

It is past time to end all contracts with ICE. This is an outlaw organization that violates US and international law, as well as Howard County laws. All HowardCounty agencies must be prohibited from assisting ICE with profiling and incarcerating innocent people, and close the ICE detention center. Immigrants are afraid of their schools, libraries, hospitals, and especially the police. This fear endangers all of us and only helps gangs recruit. A clear law prohibiting cooperation with ICE will help ease the tension. We will all be safer if immigrants feel safe enough to work with police.

Sincerely,

Rick Kohn
5218 Wood Stove Ln
Columbia, MD 21045

Sayers, Margery

From: Susan Clack <susanclack@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 2:04 PM
To: CouncilMail
Cc: Clack, George
Subject: Please support my CB 51

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

I am a longtime Howard County resident. Address below. I am well informed and want you to support CB 51. Susan Clack

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"The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." -- FDR, Inaugural Address, January 20, 1937.

Susan Clack
10320 Log Raft
Columbia, MD 21044-3806
susanclack@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Jones, Opel
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 11:00 AM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: Fw: Please support CB-51

From: Yona Gorelick <yona.lev.gorelick@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2020 10:50 AM
To: Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: Please support CB-51

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Good morning, Councilmember Jones,

I am writing to urge your support of CB-51, prohibiting immigrant detainees from being held in Howard County's detention center.

I am a Maryland resident and a Jewish great-granddaughter of immigrants to the U.S. Simply being an undocumented immigrant is no reason to be locked up and separated from family and community. Howard County should have no part in the federal immigration enforcement machine that is violating people's basic human rights every day.

In my training as a hospital chaplain, I have seen firsthand the devastating toll it takes when, for example, a soon-to-be parent is torn away from their pregnant partner. As a Jew whose very existence is thanks to my recent ancestors' desperate departures from their home countries and thanks to the opportunities they had to build life anew here in the U.S., the thought of criminalizing and removing from society people who are simply seeking a place to live in relative safety chills me to the core.

ICE employs a brutal approach including raids, deportations, and family separations of immigrants. Some immigrant detainees are apprehended at the border, and some have lived peaceably here in the U.S. for decades before being stripped of their rights and ripped from their families and communities. The inhumanity, in either of these circumstances, is unconscionable.

Please do everything in your power to end Howard County's contract with ICE. Please support CB-51 without any weakening amendments.

Thank you,

Yona Gorelick
Baltimore, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: Ray Donaldson <rtdonaldson@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 8:55 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Get ICE out of the county

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

We need to get ICE out of the county. This is a disgrace to the memory of Jim Rouse along with lots of others..Calvin Ball should be ashamed of himself if he opposes this.

Ray Donaldson. Liz's district.

Sayers, Margery

From: Live <chrisfooster22@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 6:27 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Howard County needs ICE

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

This is in response to County Council member Liz Walsh's proposal to end Howard County's contract with ICE. The council members were elected to protect and serve Howard County residents, not to provide sanctuary to criminals. It's a crime to be here illegally and it is Howard County's responsibility to notify ICE when they are releasing a criminal back into society. You were elected for a reason and we expect you to put the the safety and security of Howard County residents before criminals.

Thank you,
Christine Foster

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 7:35 PM
To: Cwskipper@smcm.edu
Subject: District 2 - Support CB 51

First Name: Christian

Last Name: Skipper

Email: Cwskipper@smcm.edu

Street Address: 5444 Tilted Stone, Apt, Suite, Bldg. (optional)

City: Columbia

Subject: Support CB 51

Message: Please support CB 51 to end Howard County's contract with ICE to detain immigrants. ICE uses cruel and unjust practices such as racial profiling, limiting access to legal resources, and ultimately makes our communities less safe. There are proven alternatives to detention that allow for families to stay safe and together and for immigrants to access the resources they need . Please support CB 51!

Sayers, Margery

From: no-reply@howardcountymd.gov
Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 7:34 PM
To: kmbenton@smcm.edu
Subject: District 2 - Support CB 51

First Name: Kara

Last Name: Skipper

Email: kmbenton@smcm.edu

Street Address: 5444 Tilted Stone, Apt, Suite, Bldg. (optional)

City: Columbia

Subject: Support CB 51

Message: Please support CB 51 to end Howard County's contract with ICE to detain immigrants. ICE uses cruel and unjust practices such as racial profiling, limiting access to legal resources, and ultimately makes our communities less safe. There are proven alternatives to detention that allow for families to stay safe and together and for immigrants to access the resources they need . Please support CB 51!