



# DIGNITY NOT DETENTION ACT



## SUPPORT HB16

Over the past several years, ICE has actively been exploring the possibility of building a new detention center in Maryland - recently near Baltimore County and now, Queen Anne's County. A new private detention center in Maryland would be absolutely detrimental to immigrant communities, leading to the increased detention of Marylanders.

ICE already has three immigration detention agreements with local county jails that allow counties to profit off the incarceration of detained immigrants. Counties like Howard, Frederick and Worcester bring hundreds of thousands to millions of dollars each year by renting their bed space to ICE - incentivizing the incarceration of immigrants. While advocates and activists have been working hard to ensure that new facilities don't get built in our state, legislators have a responsibility through legislative action to keep private immigration detention out of Maryland.

### What does the Dignity Not Detention Act do?

- Bans any new contracts or renewals of existing contracts with detention facilities operated wholly (or in part by) private corporations.
- Ensures that the public is adequately informed in any plans for a new private detention facility to take place.
- Requires local entities that already have an existing immigration detention agreement (IGSAs) to terminate the contract by June 2021.

ICE has a long documented history of inhumane treatment, inadequate medical care, and unsafe conditions that have put the lives of detained immigrants at risk for decades. ICE has failed to meet the demands of the pandemic, leading the case rate among ICE detainees to be 13X more likely to contract COVID than the rate of the general public. Urgent action is needed to protect the lives of immigrants in detention before it's too late. The Dignity Not Detention Act is one step toward ending mass incarceration and dismantling the private prison industry in Maryland.

**This bill will keep ICE from detaining immigrants in Maryland - and ensure that no local governments or corporations are profiting off of the incarceration and suffering of immigrants.**

**MARYLAND, STOP PROFITING OFF OF IMMIGRANTS IN DETENTION!**

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