

HB0388/HB0403

Hong Jeremiah Chen, OPPOSE

I, the above-named, along with thousands of like-minded Maryland residents, condemn these two House Bills, which clearly demonstrate the sponsors' blatant defiance of the rule of law, open rebellion against federal authority, and utter disrespect of our nation's sovereignty. I feel ashamed, threatened, and betrayed by these proposed sanctuary bills, and want to make sure my voice be heard and they do not pass!

In January 1996 my Visa expired after a couple extensions. I followed my immigration lawyer's advice and chose "**Voluntary Deportation**" by flying one-way and submitted myself to US Consulate in Quebec, Canada. All of us law-abiding immigrants understand one simple thing: if you stay illegally you break the law and may face severe consequence later.

I told this same story at the City of Rockville hearing a couple years ago. Many others also opposed its sanctuary city bill. Your counterpart there – the council members – used a total nonsense excuse to discount us, saying some of us are not exactly Rockville residents. The facts are, and they know better than us, we commute, do business, and interact with Rockville on almost daily basis, plus we pay county, state and federal taxes which fund Rockville's numerous facilities, agencies and programs. I also remembered one of you sponsors labeled us as those who sit comfortably in our Montgomery County houses. May I ask: does that also discount our voices? Another interesting experience back then was, when I engaged in meaningful discussions on this issue on a Facebook page run by council "affiliates", I was threatened by the owner to censure me. These tactics have become the trademarks of today's leftists.

I can honestly look straight into the eyes of you sponsors of the Bills and say, these Bills cannot win sensible debate based on merits in any aspects, whether it's safety, economy, education ... without resort to name calling (label such as the old tiring "racists") and your Utopian ideology. You know and we know, the main purpose that you bring up these shameful bills year after year is you want cheap votes from illegal immigrants. The Bills are a slap to the faces of us hard-working, law-abiding, and tax-paying citizens of Maryland. They don't represent us and you don't represent us.