

February 8, 2021

Dear Senator Smith,

I am writing to you in favor of Bill SB0478, the Dignity Not Detention Act, to prevent any new detention centers being built in Maryland.

Maryland should not be profiting off of the detainment of immigrants, who are regularly mistreated in detention centers. Residents in the areas of future proposed centers have adamantly opposed these centers. Our state and local entities should not enter into any new contracts or renew any existing contracts for these for-profit detention facilities.

These centers harm our neighbors and profit off of incarceration and mistreatment.

Immigrants are a valued and important part of our community and should be protected, which is why I am writing in favor of bill SB0478.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this important legislation that protects all Maryland residents.

Sincerely,

Colline Emmanuelle  
Maryland resident and community member