

Hello honorable delegates and senators of the Maryland General Assembly! My name is Lewhat Kahsay and I am a freshman from Richard Montgomery High School. I am apart of district 18, and as one of your constituents, I believe my opinion should be considered when making decisions regarding the future of Maryland. I am writing to you today to express my outrage at the continued ICE detention in Maryland. Private companies have no place in the immigration system, and are robbing faultless individuals of their freedom for profit. Families continue to be separated for indefinite periods of time and Maryland cannot be complicit in the misery of hundreds. The Dignity Not Detention Act would ensure local governments cannot go into communication with private entities, prohibit governments from awarding permits for centers without notifying the public, and dissolve existing government-private detention centers by the end of 2022. That is why I'm asking you to support SB 0478/ HB 0016 this session. We are counting on you.