

Testimony SUPPORTING Bill **Bill 13-26, the ICE Out Act**, scheduled for **this Tuesday, March 24 at 1:30 PM** at the Montgomery County Council.

I support Bill 13-2, the ICE Out Act, because blocking ICE from building "detention facilities" in our county is essential for the safety of us all. The detentions and all the actions by masked and violent DHS/ICE agents disrupt our communities and threaten families who make up the fabric of our society. An ICE detention building and its operations do not benefit anyone except the private companies running the "detention operations." Laws are being broken by DHS, and I fear the federal government will eventually use the new network of "detention facilities" as "concentration camps" for anyone targeted for political reasons. Montgomery County is one of the most diverse counties in the USA. The real costs associated with creating and running of ICE "detention facilities" far outweigh any promised benefits of local job creation. Diversity is our strength, but that also makes Montgomery County a potential target for violent, disruptive ICE operations. Therefore, we must take proactive steps to protect all Montgomery County residents, and this Bill 13-26, ICE Out Act, is a necessary step for our safety.