

Ariana Costa

From: Sara Peters <smp91178@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2026 1:41 PM
To: House Judiciary Committee
Subject: Written Testimony for House Bill No. 7436 re: Immigration Detention

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of House Bill No. 7436, which prohibits state or municipality from contracts to detain individuals for civil immigration violations, and if such contract exists, must end by July 1, 2026 and prohibits using public resources to detain those individuals.

Why am I in support?

If there is an opportunity, in this historical moment, to shut down a detention center that has shown a continued history of neglect, we need to take it. The Wyatt Detention Center is the only detention center that detains immigrants through its IGSA with ICE. This contract allows ICE to use state and local resources for detention, so prohibiting ISGA contracts would effectively eliminate immigration detention in the state of RI.

In addition, the Wyatt Detention Center has a continued history of neglect: in 2025, detainees reported neglect to provide medications for conditions, including sickle cell and brain cancer, dirty water causing nausea and diarrhea, and sexual assault allegations.

No city or state should rely on prisons and detention centers as a form of economic development nor punishment for immigrants by ICE activity.

Thank you for your consideration. We are watching and will vote as such moving forward.

Best,
Sara Peters

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