IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

THE PROBLEM

State law enforcement collaboration with ICE terrorizes immigrants, erodes their trust in state institutions, and makes communities less safe. Maryland Dreamers are forced to pay out-of-state tuition at public universities and colleges.

THE PEOPLE

Undocumented Marylanders, their families, and our communities as a whole. Undocumented students who graduated from high school or college in Maryland.

THE LEGISLATION

• The Trust Act will prevent law enforcement and corrections officers from cooperating with ICE on arrests and detentions.
• Overriding Governor Hogan’s veto of the strengthened Dream Act will allow undocumented Marylanders to pay in-state tuition at state colleges and universities.

THE LEGISLATORS

• Trust Act:
  ○ Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee, Chair: Bobby Zirkin (Baltimore County)
  ○ House Judiciary Committee, Chair: Luke Clippinger (Baltimore City)
  ○ Expected Champions: Senator Will Smith and Delegate David Moon (Montgomery)
• Strengthening the Dream Act:
  ○ Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee, Chair: Paul Pinsky (Prince George’s)
  ○ House Ways and Means Committee, Chair: Anne Kaiser (Montgomery)
  ○ Expected Champions: Delegates Eric Luedtke (Montgomery) and Joseline Peña-Melnyk (Prince George’s and Anne Arundel)

While legislative details are still being determined, we expect Immigrant Justice to be an important issue for our partners in 2020.
IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

JUFJ’S ANALYSIS

All people have a right to be safe and to thrive in our state, regardless of immigration status or documentation. The Trust Act will help keep families together by preventing law enforcement from holding people for ICE. The stronger Dream Act will remove unfair financial barriers to quality education for Dreamers.

- Opportunities this legislative session:
  - Many local jurisdictions have passed Trust Acts by executive orders or legislation, including Baltimore City and County, Montgomery County, DC, and Fairfax County (Virginia).
  - JUFJ and partners have been organizing in Howard County, a key jurisdiction to move the Trust Act.
  - The strengthened Dream Act passed last session with 32 votes in the Senate and 92 votes in the House, well over the 3/5 vote required to override a veto.

- Challenges this legislative session:
  - Senator Bobby Zirkin, Chair of the committee that considers this bill, has blocked the Trust Act in past years.
  - Governor Hogan’s allies will seek to uphold his veto of the stronger Dream Act.

- JUFJ’s Role:
  - The Jewish community is deeply invested in the issue of immigrant justice, and we can mobilize large numbers of people to take action on these issues.
  - Anti-immigrant forces are continuing to organize, and our partners are looking for our help to counter their messages of fear and exclusion.

NOTES

JEWS UNITED FOR JUSTICE
THINK JEWISHLY. ACT LOCALLY.