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March 27, 2025

The Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee
Maryland Senate
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: **Letter of Opposition for House Bill 1222** – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement (Maryland Values Act)

Dear Chair Smith Vice-Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

As Cecil County Executive and a retired law enforcement officer, I am writing to express my opposition to HB 1222. The 287(g) program is about keeping members of my community safe. It identifies those wanted by federal immigration detainers who are already in custody for committing crimes and victimizing the citizens of Cecil County, including our migrant community, who these criminals often target because of their vulnerability. This program doesn't target those here to make a better life for themselves – it is limited to those arrested for committing crimes. I am befuddled as to why we would want to protect lawbreakers – no matter their immigration status -when government's number one priority is the protection of our citizens. A recent survey shows 76% of our fellow Marylanders agree with me on this.

Having worked with our federal law enforcement partners as an investigator, I firmly believe that cooperation at all levels of government is essential to a free and ordered society. Cecil Countians have a right to expect to be secure in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods and the General Assembly should not be legislating away our ability to protect ourselves from criminals with a program that has existed since 1996. Furthermore, as County Executive, I am concerned about the potential loss of federal funding if we obstruct our federal partners in their job of removing criminals here illegally.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I urge you to look **unfavorably** on HB 1222.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Streight", written over a horizontal line.

Adam Streight
County Executive