

Sheriff Brian K. Albert Washington County Sheriff's Office

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March 25, 2025

Distinguished Members of the Judicial Proceedings committee,

I am writing to oppose HB1222. This bill limits our ability as locally elected Sheriff's to participate in a joint agreement with a federal agency via the 287 g program. The 287G program has been villainized by the media and some in the MD house of delegates. Sherriff's and Chief's across the state currently participate in joint agreements to assist in getting criminals off our streets. Such agreements are made with the DEA, FBI, and ATF, just to name a few. By passing this legislation you will be limiting our ability as Sheriff's and other police executives to cooperate with ICE and remove violent criminals from our communities. By giving an unfavorable report or removing the requirement to end 287g agreements from this bill it will allow Sheriff's and law enforcement leaders to choose if they want to participate in an agreement with ICE and the 287g program. If this bill is passed and I am required to release a known criminal back into my community and they kill or injury a member of the public, the community will not be asking questions of the senators or delegates here in Annapolis the will asking me the local Sheriff," why did that have to happen to my family member. Look no further than Harford county and the Rachel Moran case. Please consider a non-favorable report on this bill today.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Albert

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