
TO: House Judiciary Committee

BILL: House Bill (HB) 1341 – Public Schools - School Security Personnel - Immigration Investigation and Enforcement

DATE: February 25, 2026

POSITION: Support

The Maryland State Board of Education (State Board) and the State Department of Education (MSDE) provide this Letter of Support regarding HB 1341 – Public Schools - School Security Personnel - Immigration Investigation and Enforcement.

HB 1341 explicitly prohibits school resource officers (SROs), school security employees, and other law enforcement officers providing coverage to schools from engaging in any federal immigration investigation or enforcement activities under §287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Additionally, these personnel are barred from producing or sharing student educational records, employee personnel records, or any other information about students, school employees, or their families for immigration enforcement purposes.

By prohibiting school security personnel from engaging in immigration investigations or sharing sensitive student and employee information for immigration purposes, HB 1341 ensures that schools remain places of learning rather than enforcement. The proposed bill protects privacy rights and aligns with federal and state laws designed to safeguard personal information. Most importantly, it helps maintain a welcoming environment where all students and educators, regardless of immigration status, can focus on education without fear.

SROs in Maryland are law enforcement officers assigned to schools through formal agreements between local law enforcement agencies and local education agencies (LEAs). Their primary role is to maintain a safe and secure learning environment, prevent crime, and build positive relationships with students, staff, and families. SROs are meant to act as an additional support in the school setting, helping students understand legal and safety issues while building trust between schools and the community.

By being present in schools, SROs and school security personnel provide immediate response to emergencies, reduce incidents of violence or illegal activity, and support school administrators in developing safety plans and conducting drills. They also act as a bridge between families and law enforcement to promote understanding and collaboration. When these personnel are asked to participate in federal immigration enforcement, that trust can be severely compromised. Families may fear sending their children to school, and students could feel unsafe or targeted, which undermines both educational access and emotional well-being.

The State Board and MSDE respectfully request consideration of these comments as HB 1341 is discussed and deliberated. For further information, please contact Laurel Cratsley at laurel.cratsley@maryland.gov.