

Testimony in Support of SB88(HB304) - State and Local Government - Participation in Federal Immigration Enforcement

To: Senator Will Smith, Chair, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

From: Gavin Kohn, Columbia, MD, 21045 (gavin.kohn@gmail.com)

Date: January 24, 2021

Please support SB88 (Trust Act) which limits the partnership between Maryland's local and state law enforcement agencies and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), including 287g agreements. HB304 also requires the Attorney General to develop guidelines for schools, hospitals and courthouses to establish policies that limit civil immigration enforcement on their premises thus making these facilities safe and accessible to all.

I am a resident in Howard County, and I am a student at the University of Maryland, College Park. I and many other people do not trust the local and state police forces for many reasons, but especially because they work with ICE to enforce non-criminal actions. ICE has been enacting terrifying policies that are inhumane and racist, and our police are complicit with these when they identify, detain and transfer immigrants for ICE. This further erodes trust in our police and government structure, and we can start to address that by ending any collaboration between our police force and ICE.

Local law enforcement should not ask for citizenship or national origin, and definitely should not detain or transfer immigrants for ICE. We may not be able to control ICE's actions at the state level, but we certainly do not need to be complicit with their crimes.

**Please pass SB88.**

Gavin Kohn