

My grandfather, Patrick Daly, fled a famine to come to the United States. He was poor at first. Three of his six children died in infancy. Eventually, he became a police sergeant in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and a trusted member of the community. His son, my father, studied law at Yale on a scholarship, where he was ridiculed at times by the elite. My father would not tolerate slurs of any kind in our home. My father used his skills to ensure that members of his community received fair treatment in courts of law. I was taught to respect my neighbor. That is why I am speaking here today.

People who come here seeking safety are our neighbors. Their kids play with my grandkids. They want to give their kids a better life just as my grandfather and father worked so hard to do for their children.

We can live up to the values that brought my grandfather here. I want Maryland to be a place where people trust our legal system and its law enforcement. I want our Maryland home to be a place where people know their rights will be protected. Our constitution guarantees the right to due process for everyone.

ICE too often uses cruel methods and violates the right to due process that every person in America has. I cannot agree with those who say that 287g is just a tool. A tool can become a weapon when it is being misused. I support SB0245 and a clean bill banning 287g agreements in MD. I do not want our state to be complicit with ICE's cruelty. I urge you to pass this bill early with no carve-outs or compromises.

Thank you.