

Testimony on Senate Bill – Favorable
SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

January 20, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Jennifer Jarvis, and I am a native-born US citizen and resident of Baltimore City. I am writing in support of **SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition**.

We are all watching ordinary, peaceful citizens be brutalized by ICE agents on a daily basis in places like Minneapolis; no one should ever be treated like that by anyone, let alone government employees whose salaries we pay with our tax dollars. These agents often refuse to identify themselves, produce judicial warrants or follow procedures for humane investigation and detention that law enforcement is supposed to adhere to in a free country. I support **SB 245** because immigration enforcement agreements like 287(g) create fear not just in immigrant communities, but everywhere.

Maybe you don't care about immigrant communities; I understand the Trump administration WANTS to stoke fear in our communities, but Maryland has to take a stand for the sake of everyone. If local law enforcement supports ICE, they risk an even greater decline in trust and support amongst ALL residents. If armed masked thugs can roam our streets in an unconstitutional manner with the support of our police and sheriffs' departments, the rule of law will be lost. I've never wanted to own a gun in my life, but I'm not sure what else to do when we see ICE disregard the constitution and human decency by breaking into people's cars and homes. If ICE shows up at my house without a judicial warrant to detain my naturalized-citizen husband and tries to break into a door or window (which is happening), I doubt I could call the police for help, right?

I would personally support abolishing ICE, but even if you don't agree I would hope you could see how folly it would be to allow ICE to run rampant in our state as they have been for the past year. You're shooting yourselves in the foot if you don't reign them in and make them follow the law; support for ICE is plummeting across the country as we witness atrocities we thought could not happen on a mass scale in the United States of America. Someone dies every few days in ICE detention facilities right now, we all watched the murder of Renee Good and the near-death of a six-month old baby from chemical attack; **OUR ELECTED LEADERS MUST TAKE DECISIVE ACTION TO PROTECT MARYLAND COMMUNITIES. The time for sharply worded letters is OVER.**

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report** on **SB 245**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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