

SB0660_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
02/25/2026
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TESTIMONY ON SB#0660 - POSITION: FAVORABLE
Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions

TO: Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0660, **Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions**

The purpose of this bill is to protect Maryland residents from the multiple cases, both here in Maryland and around the country, from ICE violations regarding the safe transfer of individuals in custody. It will provide the accountability that may be missing or disregarded in these incidents from the lack of proper credential reporting of this immigration enforcement activity. Resistance to inclusion of these common-sense protections of residents of Maryland are the major sticking points in the current funding fight in Congress over DHS funding.

The actions this bill will mandate for Maryland law enforcement agencies are:

On receiving notices of an immigration enforcement action happening in a law enforcement agency's jurisdiction, a law enforcement agency shall dispatch at least one law enforcement officer to:

- ✓ observe the immigration enforcement action
- ✓ ensure the safe transfer of an individual in custody as a result of the immigration enforcement action
- ✓ to the extent practicable, record the immigration enforcement action with the officer's body-worn camera
- ✓ file a report documenting the activity of immigration enforcement officials, including the date, time, and location of the action
 - If applicable, the type of warrant used for the immigration enforcement action
 - what federal agencies were involved with the immigration enforcement action
 - A description of any force used during the immigration enforcement action
 - whether any medical attention was required because of the immigration enforcement action
 - whether the law enforcement officers were restricted from observing or recording the immigration enforcement action
 - any violations of law the officer observed during the immigration enforcement action
 - preserve any evidence related to the immigration enforcement action
- ✓ While responding to an immigration enforcement action, a law enforcement officer shall continue to perform the constitutional obligations of the officer's position.

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This bill will accomplish its purposes by requiring a law enforcement agency to respond to a report of an immigration enforcement activity within the agency's jurisdiction; requiring a law enforcement officer responding to a report of an immigration enforcement activity to observe and report certain information; and requiring that the reports and recordings created in accordance with the Act are subject to the Public Information Act.

Until the current Federal Administration follows both judicial decisions and constitutional protections Maryland must have these protections in place for its residents.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB0660.