

JACQUELINE BRINKMAN
SB 245
FAVORABLE

I proudly support **SB 245** because it reflects Maryland's commitment to public safety, community trust, and the effective use of law enforcement resources. Local law enforcement's primary mission should be to protect all Maryland residents — regardless of their immigration status — by focusing on violent and serious crime, not acting as agents for federal immigration enforcement. By ending 287(g)-style agreements, this bill helps remove barriers between law enforcement and the communities they serve, ensuring that victims and witnesses are not afraid to report crimes or cooperate with investigations out of fear of immigration consequences. As supporters of community safety know, trust between police and the public is essential to crime prevention and successful policing.

Furthermore, SB 245 affirms the principle that immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility and should not divert limited local resources from core public safety priorities. When Maryland's officers are not tasked with federal immigration duties, they can concentrate on addressing crime trends that most impact our neighborhoods — from property crime to violent offenses. This bill also respects the dignity of all Maryland residents and reinforces the idea that our communities are safer when everyone feels secure and protected, not targeted. For these reasons, I urge the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee to support SB 245 and advance a more equitable, focused, and effective approach to public safety for our state.