

January 22, 2026

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TESTIMONY ON SB0245 – IN SUPPORT

Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreement – Prohibition

TO: Chair William C. Smith, Jr., Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Ydelka A. Schrock

My name is Ydelka A. Schrock. I am a resident of Harford County District 34A. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB0245, Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreement – Prohibition. I am a parent, neighbor, immigrant, and Military Veteran. I believe in standing up for democracy, social, racial, and economic justice.

When I came to this country as a little girl I was amazed at how many people from different cultures resided in the town that I lived in. The many different cultural festivals that were always celebrated each year with pride were among my fondest memories as a child. As a Spanish kid I got to try Italian, Irish, Chinese, and Lebanese foods. I had friends whose families came from various parts of the world. My town represented the diversity of America and its greatness. The United States was built in part by the energy and ingenuity that immigrants both documented and undocumented brought with them when they settle in this country.

Despite evidence that the 287g agreement undermines public safety, and that States who used them incur little benefit even in terms of reimbursement, some Maryland Counties continue to uphold this dangerous program, which prioritizes deportations over community trust. This agreement was generated out of fear, after 9/11 and has metastasized to cruelty against our immigrant friends, neighbors, and family, despite the contributions they have made to this country.

By deputizing local law enforcement to function as ICE agents, our government is fueling racial profiling, civil rights abuses, and widespread fear in our communities. These immigrants are our friends, neighbors, and family members. They deserve to live without the anxiety and fear of being persecuted by this administration.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB0245.