

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

My name is Jered Ebenreck, and I am a resident of Calvert County, **Maryland**. I am writing in support of **SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition**.

I support **SB 245** because immigration enforcement agreements like 287(g) create fear in immigrant communities and undermine public safety for everyone. When people fear contact with law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate as witnesses—even when they are victims. Our local police must be concerned with local safety, not collaborating to create fear. I am uninterested in seeing any Maryland law enforcement participate willingly in what amounts to masked Federal assaults on human beings regardless of citizenship status. Working with Immigration Enforcement exceeds the mandates of protecting and serving our local communities.

Programs like 287(g) have been associated with racial profiling, discrimination, and wrongful detention. They divert local resources away from protecting communities and instead entangle local agencies in federal deportation efforts that separate families and destabilize neighborhoods. When we know that immigration status is not on the mind of local law enforcement, we will not fear calling in a medical emergency for somebody in the grocery store or on the highway; we will not wonder what unintended consequences come of our efforts to help our neighbors. 287(g) makes immigrants and citizens question who our police really serve.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Jered Ebenreck, jebenreck@icloud.com