

Sonja Lane Fisher

January 20, 2026

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

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee meeting, January 22, 2026

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

My name is Sonja Fisher, and I am a resident of Frederick City, in Frederick County, Maryland. I am writing in support of SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition.

As a Marylander, I have been shocked by the actions of counties, including Frederick, who chose to cooperate with ICE, which has been acting in a lawless and reckless fashion.

I believe that on the whole, our immigrant neighbors add value and vibrancy to Frederick, Maryland and our nation. 287g agreements are anathema to me.

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.

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.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sonja Fisher

