

SB 660: Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am writing to express my strong **opposition** to Senate Bill 660, "Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions."

This legislation would mandate that Maryland's local law enforcement agencies actively respond to and monitor federal immigration enforcement operations, including dispatching officers to observe ICE or other federal actions, record them, ensure "safe transfers" of detained individuals, and produce detailed public reports on federal activities. These requirements impose unnecessary burdens on already resource-strained police departments, diverting officers from core public safety duties such as responding to violent crimes, traffic incidents, or community emergencies.

Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility under the U.S. Constitution, and **local law enforcement should not be compelled to surveil or document federal civil immigration actions.** Mandating such involvement will create conflicts with federal authority, exposing officers and agencies to liability, and eroding trust in law enforcement by positioning them as overseers of federal operations rather than neutral protectors of public safety. Requiring body-worn camera recording and public disclosure of these interactions will also compromise operational security, officer safety, and/or sensitive federal tactics.

Maryland already maintains strong protections for community members, including recent laws limiting formal cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. **SB 660** forces active local intervention and documentation, which could compromise federal enforcement efforts, strain limited resources, and politicize routine policing. **Local agencies should focus on state and local laws, not be required to monitor or report on federal civil immigration matters.**

I urge the Committee to **give SB 660 an unfavorable report** and prevent its passage. Protecting law enforcement resources, maintaining clear federal-state boundaries, and prioritizing core public safety missions are essential for Maryland residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals