

Subject: FAVORABLE: SBO245

Public Safety- Immigration Enforcement Agreements-Prohibition
Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldsteicher, and Members,

My name is Eileen McGrath and I am a resident of Frederick County, Maryland.

I am writing in support of SB 245 because it is clear that our 287G agreement is Not making our community safer- it is in fact- undermining public safety for all of us. The **Latino community, which is the largest minority group in Frederick**, lives in daily fear of being targeted by local police. Parents are afraid to send their children to school, afraid to go to work and now many of them are afraid to even respond to a knock on the door. **287G and its cooperation with ICE has completely eroded their trust in law enforcement.** As a former director of a Crime Victim Assistance Program, I am keenly aware that if you lose the trust of your residents you will not be successful in fighting crime despite what Sheriff Jenkins tells us. He equates large numbers of arrests with success. Unfortunately, this past June at a public forum when asked for details about the nature of the stops that lead to arrests, the Sheriff was unable to give us the answer. That lack of transparency has eroded trust well beyond the Latino community in Frederick County.

It's time for the State of MD to send a message that Marylanders will not be complicit in participating in agreements that provide assistance to ICE as it is currently operating.