

SB 0245 Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition

SUPPORT SB 0245

Hearing in the Judicial Proceedings Committee, January 22

Dear Chairperson Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Senators on the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am a resident of Severna Park Maryland (D31) and I am writing to ask you to **give a favorable vote on SB 0245**, which would prohibit immigration enforcement agreements with local law enforcement agencies in Maryland. I strongly believe that the agreements between immigration agencies and local law enforcement must be abolished across the state, as they already have been in many counties. Over the past year, immigration agencies such as ICE have been terrorizing citizens with increasingly aggressive and militarized tactics as well as actions that are clearly unconstitutional. Tragically, this has led to the wounding and death of innocent citizens. I recently read that ICE has almost tripled its number of arrests over the past year, fomenting fear and distrust in our communities. Maryland must take steps to protect citizens from the harm that ICE is perpetrating. Local law enforcement officials should not be partnering with ICE. Immigration enforcement agreements create more distrust and alienation between local law enforcement and communities, which creates greater risk of danger and harm for all.

I urge you to SUPPORT SB 0245.

Sincerely,

Abbie Ellicott
Severna Park, MD 21146