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January 20, 2026

The Honorable Will Smith, Chair
Senate Judicial Procedures Committee
2 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: **Letter of Opposition for Senate Bill 245** – Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition

Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

As Cecil County Executive and a retired law enforcement officer, I write to respectfully but firmly oppose SB 245. I understand and appreciate the national conversation surrounding immigration enforcement and the concern many have about indiscriminate actions against individuals who have integrated into our communities, contribute positively, and otherwise live law-abiding lives. If that is the intent of this legislation, eliminating the 287(g) program does not advance that goal and instead risks discarding an important public safety tool.

The 287(g) program is narrowly focused on individuals *already in custody* for **committing crimes** and subject to federal immigration detainers. It does not target otherwise law-abiding immigrants seeking a better life. In fact, it helps protect all communities, including migrant communities, which are often victimized by criminal offenders. Government's foremost responsibility is public safety, regardless of an individual's immigration status.

Based on my experience as an investigator working with federal law enforcement partners, I believe cooperation across all levels of government is essential to maintaining safe communities. Marylanders have a right to feel secure in their homes, schools, and neighborhoods, and the General Assembly should not dismantle a program that has existed since 1996 and supports that goal. I am also concerned about the potential loss of federal funding if local governments are seen as obstructing federal efforts to remove criminal offenders.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I respectfully urge you to look **unfavorably** on SB 245.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AS", followed by a large, stylized "P".

Adam Streight
County Executive