



TESTIMONY
SB0660 Public Safety – Law Enforcement
Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions

Bill Sponsor: Senator Love

Committee: Senate Judicial Proceedings

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Aileen Alex, Cochair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in support of **SB0660** on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. We are an association of unpaid citizen advocates—individuals and grassroots groups in every district—representing more than 30,000 Marylanders.

Over the past year, we have been horrified by reports of immigration-related enforcement actions occurring without oversight or public visibility. These incidents can discourage victims, witnesses, and family members from engaging with the justice system, even when they are participating in court proceedings. It also discourages people from participating in life—jobs, school, and church for example.

SB0660 strengthens public safety and community trust by requiring law enforcement agencies to **respond to reports of immigration enforcement activity within their jurisdiction** and to ensure that a responding officer **observes and documents the encounter**. As the bill summary notes, these reports and recordings are then **subject to the Public Information Act**, providing transparency and accountability in situations that often generate fear and confusion in immigrant communities.

By requiring a documented response and ensuring that information is publicly accessible, the bill promotes due process and helps rebuild trust at a moment when confidence in public institutions is fragile.

This bill aligns directly with the mission of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. Our work centers on equity, transparency, and civic empowerment. SB0660 strengthens all three by ensuring that every Marylander—regardless of immigration status—can safely interact with public institutions and know that enforcement actions are subject to oversight rather than occurring in the shadows. For these reasons, we urge a **FAVORABLE** report on SB0660.