

Dear Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City, Baltimore County, and Howard County. We are also working in collaboration with CASA de Maryland. I am a resident of **District 46**, and I am **testifying in support of SB245 - The End 287g Agreements Act**.



**Showing Up for Racial Justice**

The End 287g Agreements Act would terminate 287(g) agreements currently active in eight Maryland counties. These agreements, which allow local law enforcement to check immigration status and detain individuals suspected of being undocumented, have several proven negative impacts including: increased racial profiling, community fear, disruption of local policing priorities, negative effects on education, and potential civil rights violations, often disproportionately impacting Latino and Black communities. Ending this program is essential for restoring public trust.

The 287(g) agreement active in Frederick County was found to result in significant racial profiling and a resulting “chilling effect” in Hispanic communities.<sup>1</sup> Shifting resources to support 287(g) has led to “wrongful detainment, racial profiling and fear of retaliation for speaking out against the program”<sup>2</sup> Local law enforcement focuses on people with minor criminal histories, steering resources away from violent crimes. The Trump administration’s focus on sheer numbers in immigration enforcement has enhanced this effect, and his inauguration encouraged even more Maryland counties to enter immigration enforcement agreements.<sup>3</sup> ICE has invaded our communities in such numbers that immigrants – even those with official status – are constantly afraid as they go about their lives. Allowing local law enforcement agencies to join in this massive racial profiling effort heightens the climate of fear, and ensures that people cannot ever call on the police for help, because the officers are more concerned with identifying and deporting immigrants than preventing or solving crime.

Maryland’s large immigrant community makes up nearly a third of all Maryland healthcare support workers, a third of the state’s building maintenance and groundskeepers, and supports a thriving and diverse small business community. In 2018, Maryland’s immigrant communities were contributing \$8 billion in federal and \$4 billion in state taxes, providing \$2 billion in business revenue from entrepreneurship, and added tens of billions to Maryland’s economy with their purchasing power<sup>4</sup>. We are stronger when our immigrant communities feel safe and supported in our cities and state. And under this current political climate, protections are needed more now than ever.

**It is for these reasons that I am encouraging you to vote in support of SB245 - The End 287g Agreements Act.**

Sincerely,  
**Lindsay Keipper**  
**2425 Fleet St.**  
Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore

<sup>1</sup> Michael Coon; Local Immigration Enforcement and Arrests of the Hispanic Population; *Journal on Migration and Human Security*, August 8, 2018

<sup>2</sup> Charles Powers; 287(g): ICE Deputizing Local Law Enforcement Harms Migrants and Local Communities; *University of Cincinnati College of Law, Immigration and Human Right Law Review*, February 2024, Volume 3, Issue 1

<sup>3</sup> Sam Gaunt; As immigration arrests surge, so does number of Maryland sheriffs agreeing to work with ICE; *Maryland Matters*; July 21, 2025.

<sup>4</sup> Immigrants in Maryland; *American Immigration Council*

<sup>6</sup> The Atlantic: How ICE Lost Its Guardrails