

Testimony on Senate Bill – Favorable

SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

January 22, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Rebecca Armendariz, MSW, LCSW-C; I'm a resident of Baltimore County and a clinical social worker. I am writing in support of SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition.

The increase in ICE activity in our state is a direct result of the authoritarian takeover of the U.S. federal government. ICE officers are modern slave catchers, kidnapping people of color on sight without any concern for the law or Constitution. We in Maryland must use every possible resource and pull every lever of power that we can to prevent more of our neighbors from ICE/DHS detention. Banning 287(g) agreements is critical to this task.

We are in precarious times, with the federal impoundment crisis and destructive of civil service deeply impacting our state. We must provide communities with resources to survive this time, material and social, and not further tax residents' nervous systems and psyches by contributing to the brutality of this state terror campaign.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report on SB 245.

Thank you for your time and consideration.



Rebecca Armendariz, MSW, LCSW-C