

Testimony on Senate Bill 245

FAVORABLE

SB245: 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 Linda Green and I am a resident of Mount Rainier, Maryland. I am writing in support of SB245. As a member of the American Public Health Association and Doctors for Camp Closure I am offering “favorable” testimony today.

Last year I shared experiences of my friends at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland and their history of racist policing and immigrant detention in Frederick County. The collaboration of local police with ICE had been ongoing under 287 G and led to dangers to residents. It also diverted local law enforcement from their primary duty of protecting public safety, forcing them to act as immigration agents rather than community protectors.

This year the situation is far worse throughout my neighborhood and surrounding areas where ICE raids on my neighbors have included being snatched while mowing the lawn or going to work or dropping off children at school. The collaboration of transit and park police with ICE has made travel on subways or the BW Parkway particularly dangerous. WE must not allow our police to join in the collaboration with ICE. Today I know that residents have stopped going to doctors or sending children to school. A friend who teaches kindergarten has seen her class shrink from 18 to 12 students. Colleagues I know from my medical career as a physician report more “no shows” and fewer appointments. My neighbors and I patrol our food distribution centers and schools but still have had one mother detained walking home from school a few blocks away. Allowing 287 g programs to expand in the state was the outcome of last year’s failures to act. Now is the time for the legislature to shut down Maryland’s participation in this program.

I respectfully urge the committee to issue a favorable report on SB245.