

Testimony SB 245

Public Safety-Immigrant Enforcement Agreements-Prohibition

Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee

January 22, 2026

FAVORABLE

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

I write as a citizen of Maryland to urge you to please provide a favorable report on SB 245. Reading news accounts and witnessing immigration tactics and enforcement activities compels action on this proposed legislation. As an attorney I have provided pro bono representation to immigrant children and know of immigrant neighbors who have been detained. Detention is not appropriate for many individuals who cannot reasonably contest their detention or status while held in what are often poor and isolating conditions. I have known of individuals who lacked proper health care while detained.

Current ICE enforcement practices, using racial profiling, use of force, and lack of due process, illustrate why we need to pause and end any practices that place a community in fear and expand immigration enforcement to state and local law enforcement. Given the massive federal resources allotted to immigration enforcement, it also belies common sense to add extra enforcement duties to state or local policing.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments, and for voting to issue a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Lauren Young

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