

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 **Susan Allen** and I am a **resident of Anne Arundel County, Maryland**. I am writing in support of **SB 245 – Public Safety – Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition**.

People in my immediate family have recently become naturalized U.S. citizens and my neighbors and local business owners in Annapolis have recently arrived from other countries.

I support **SB 245** because immigration enforcement agreements like 287(g) create fear in immigrant communities and undermine public safety for everyone. When people fear contact with law enforcement, they are less likely to report crimes, seek help, or cooperate as witnesses—even when they are victims.

Legitimate fear of ICE enforcement concerns many local churches and affects my friends in Frederick, MD, who have witnessed ICE actions. My church St. Anne's Episcopal has trained on strategies to deal with ICE agents if they should occupy our church during Sunday services.

Programs like 287(g) have been associated with racial profiling, discrimination, and wrongful detention. They divert local resources away from protecting communities and instead entangle local agencies in federal deportation efforts that separate families and destabilize neighborhoods.

Anne Arundel County residents and elected officials have made it clear through legislation and action that we don't want ICE enforcement here.

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

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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