

Testimony on Senate Bill 854 – Favorable

SB854 – Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Restrictions

Judicial Proceedings

February 24, 2026

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

My name is Susan Ribe, resident of Montgomery County, Maryland. I am writing in support of **SB854 – Limit Racial Profiling**.

Racial profiling in law enforcement is contrary to the idea of equal justice under the law. It is un-American and inconsistent with Maryland values. Entire communities are being terrorized by lawless federal agents using violence against law-abiding people. The level of violence is truly shocking including 16 shootings by DHS officers since July, including one in Glen Burnie.

I support SB854 because federal officials and the Supreme Court are not defending against these abuses. Maryland must affirm existing constitutional protections against racial profiling through language explicitly forbidding racial profiling by law enforcement.

ICE is a special threat to our communities. Some of my law-abiding neighbors have been taken or threatened by ICE. My community is traumatized by ICE's violent and racial-profiling tactics.

Legislation such as SB854 increases my feeling of safety as a Maryland resident. This legislation addresses racial profiling, and the specific abuses perpetrated by ICE. The private cause of action included in SB854 helps to counter the feeling of powerlessness resulting from lawless ICE behavior that has faced no consequences thus far.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report on SB854**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Susan Ribe

Silver Spring, Maryland 20906