



Frederick County
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Tuesday, January 20, 2025

Dear Honorable Members of the Maryland General Assembly:

The Frederick County Democratic Central Committee strongly urges you to vote to end Maryland's participation in the Federal 287(g) Program ("Program").

Maryland's public safety, legislative, and law enforcement strategies emphasize fairness, inclusion, and community-based policing. The Program runs counter to these values.

Studies raise concerns about racial profiling, civil rights violations, and resource misuse, with no clear proof that it makes our communities safer.

The Program is no longer a limited effort to deport the "worst of the worst" undocumented immigrants. It is now part of the Trump Administration's effort to suppress, to intimidate, and to instill fear into our immigrant communities and American citizens. Masked, unidentifiable ICE agents are engaging in unchecked, unconstitutional practices and abuses throughout the country, including Maryland.

Community members fear leaving their homes for school drop-offs, medical care, or groceries. The Program exposes our communities to crime and harms our justice system. People are less likely to report crimes, serve as witnesses, or seek police help. This breakdown in trust makes everyone less safe.

The Program also harms our business community. Our members hear daily about businesses unable to hire, closing early due to staff shortages, and facing shortfalls as immigrant neighbors stay home. With spring home improvement season approaching, construction and landscaping companies worry about handling spring workloads with fewer workers.

Ending the Program would avoid these harmful effects and let law enforcement focus on community safety and trust without straining resources.

We respectfully implore you to end all 287(g) agreements in Maryland immediately to strengthen public safety, restore trust in government, and uphold civil rights.

Thank you for your time and leadership.