

# **SB0660 Accountability.pdf**

Uploaded by: Anne Manuel

Position: FAV

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 0660, Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to  
Immigration Enforcement Actions**

**Chair William C. Smith, Jr. & Members of the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**

February 25, 2026

My name is Anne Manuel. I've lived in Silver Spring for forty years. I am among a group of neighbors who last year formed North Woodside Civil Resistance out of concern for the threat to our democracy posed by the actions of the Trump administration. I'm writing to express my strong support for SB0660 Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions.

Federal immigration agents have been operating all over the country as if our laws did not apply to them. Masked unidentified agents terrorize our communities with no regard for basic American protections such as due process, freedom of assembly, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and protection from unreasonable searches and seizures.

Violence seems to be an essential part of immigration agents' *modus operandi*; they actually seem to delight in using excessive force. ICE's calling card is the smashed car window, the mother thrown on the ground, the children crying in fear or choking on pepper spray. Videos of brutal apprehensions are posted on government social media accounts, as if for entertainment.

Our state needs to make clear that we do not accept these lawless tactics. We need to impose a price on agents who would terrorize the most vulnerable members of our community as if their lives did not count. Allowing such crimes to continue unchecked invites further abuses. By requiring Maryland law enforcement to respond to reports of misconduct during immigration operations and creating reports subject to the Public Information Act, SB0660 would be an important step towards accountability.

Unaccountable law enforcement is the essence of a police state. The Maryland House and Senate are considering several important bills that would work to rein in the abuses that have characterized the administration's immigration enforcement practices. SB0660 would be an important complement to these legislative initiatives. For that reason, I support a favorable report on SB0660.

Anne Manuel  
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301-742-4121  
nightsky11@verizon.net



# **SB0660\_Public\_Safety\_-\_Law\_Enforcement\_-\_Response\_**

Uploaded by: Cecilia Plante

Position: FAV



**TESTIMONY**  
**SB0660 Public Safety – Law Enforcement**  
**Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions**

**Bill Sponsor:** Senator Love

**Committee:** Senate Judicial Proceedings

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Aileen Alex, Cochair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in support of **SB0660** on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. We are an association of unpaid citizen advocates—individuals and grassroots groups in every district—representing more than 30,000 Marylanders.

Over the past year, we have been horrified by reports of immigration-related enforcement actions occurring without oversight or public visibility. These incidents can discourage victims, witnesses, and family members from engaging with the justice system, even when they are participating in court proceedings. It also discourages people from participating in life—jobs, school, and church for example.

SB0660 strengthens public safety and community trust by requiring law enforcement agencies to **respond to reports of immigration enforcement activity within their jurisdiction** and to ensure that a responding officer **observes and documents the encounter**. As the bill summary notes, these reports and recordings are then **subject to the Public Information Act**, providing transparency and accountability in situations that often generate fear and confusion in immigrant communities.

By requiring a documented response and ensuring that information is publicly accessible, the bill promotes due process and helps rebuild trust at a moment when confidence in public institutions is fragile.

This bill aligns directly with the mission of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. Our work centers on equity, transparency, and civic empowerment. SB0660 strengthens all three by ensuring that every Marylander—regardless of immigration status—can safely interact with public institutions and know that enforcement actions are subject to oversight rather than occurring in the shadows. For these reasons, we urge a **FAVORABLE** report on SB0660.

# **SB660 Favorable 2026.pdf**

Uploaded by: Debi Jasen

Position: FAV

Judicial Proceedings Committee  
Senate Bill 660  
Favorable

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee;

Please give Senate Bill 660 a favorable report.

I'm among the first to advise people to avoid calling the police when possible. However, when talking to my son about what to do if ICE knocks on our door, I told him that calling the county police was an option. I gave him a list of things to do, which includes telling ICE agents that they're consenting to being recorded if they remain on our property, recording them, asking for their ID, asking if they have a warrant signed by a judge, and telling them that they're trespassing, harassing, and intimidating him if they don't leave. But we all know that ICE agents lie. We know that they break down doors without warrants. We know that they detain and arrest citizens. We know that they steal phones. We know that they assault and even kill people for no reason whatsoever. So I told my son that he can choose to call the police, simply because our county police have body cameras and ICE agents don't have the right to take those. I told my son that the police may not be able to intervene, but they can serve as witnesses.

None of us should have to think about these things. None of us should have to worry whether our children will be safe. But in these fascist times, we have reason to be very concerned.

The police may not be able to do anything other than serve as witnesses, just as many of us have served as witnesses to police interactions with the public. But the police, while in uniform, are safer from ICE than the rest of us. And someone needs to be able document what really happens. Please vote for Senate Bill 660. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Debi Jasen  
Pasadena, MD

# **SB660**

Uploaded by: Jordy Diaz

Position: FAV

**Testimony to the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**  
**SB 660 : Public Safety – Law Enforcement – Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions**  
**Position: Favorable**

March 6, 2025

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401  
cc: Members, Judicial Proceedings Committee

Chair Smith and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jordy Diaz and I am a resident of District 16 in Chevy Chase. As the son of Honduran immigrants I am focused on the practical reality of how our state laws are enforced. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB 660 because it replaces administrative trust with verified data.

The current system allows federal agencies to conduct high risk operations in Maryland neighborhoods without any independent state record. This is a failure of oversight. If a federal agent uses force on a Maryland street the state currently has no independent proof of the warrants they held or the tactics they used. SB 660 fixes this flaw. It requires local officers to record these events and file a structural report. This ensures that the state of Maryland maintains its own verified record of police activity within its borders.

Opponents of this bill claim that observing federal actions is an unnecessary task for local police. This is a poor assessment of operational risk. In any other field like construction or medicine an independent observer is a standard requirement to ensure the system does not fail. Policing should be no different. By requiring a state audit through body camera footage and reporting SB 660 protects the state from the legal and financial risks that occur when there is no objective record of federal conduct.

The fiscal note for this bill mentions costs for storing video for four months and reports for four years. These are minor administrative expenses compared to the cost of a single unrecorded civil rights violation. Collecting this data is a basic requirement for fiscal responsibility. Maryland should not have to rely on federal agencies to report on what happens in our own neighborhoods.

SB 660 is a necessary structural fix that ensures Maryland has the information it needs to manage its own public safety environment. I urge a favorable report.

Sincerely,

Jordy Diaz



# **Testimony for the Judicial Proceedings Committee.p**

Uploaded by: Michael Meyerson

Position: FAV

Michael Meyerson  
DLA Piper Professor of Law, University of Baltimore School of Law  
Testimony on Senate Bill 660 for the Judicial Proceedings Committee  
February 25, 2026

Good Afternoon, Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

My name is Michael Meyerson. I am the DLA Piper Professor of Law at the University of Baltimore School of Law, where I teach Constitutional Law. I have also written extensively on constitutional rights and responsibilities. In my opinion, Senate Bill 660, which directs Maryland’s law enforcement agencies to observe, record, and document ICE’s enforcement actions, is not only constitutional, it embodies the best of America’s constitutional tradition.

Those who framed our Constitution in 1787 understood that the federalism embodied in that document created a system of “dual sovereignty.” *Gregory v. Ashcroft*, 501 U.S. 452, 457 (1991). Under this American system of federalism “both the Federal Government and the States wield sovereign powers....” *Murphy v NCAA* 584 U.S. 453, 470-71 (2018). And a State’s sovereign obligation to protect its inhabitants extends to protecting against abuses of power by the Federal government.

As James Madison declared, “the state legislatures will jealously and closely watch the operations of [the federal] government, and be able to resist with more effect every assumption of power than any other power on earth can do.” James Madison, House of Representatives, **Papers of James Madison** 12:196—209 (June 8, 1789). It is, in fact, the constitutional function of state legislatures to “to sound the alarm to the people” when the federal government invades the rights of the people with ‘unconstitutional acts.” **Federalist** 44 (Madison)

Of course, under the Supremacy Clause, a state cannot interfere with the operations of the federal government. *See e.g. M'Culloch v. Maryland*, 17 U.S. 316, 329–30 (1819)(state tax on national bank was unconstitutional because “there cannot be a clearer case of interference.”). But merely observing, recording, and documenting what federal immigration officers are doing is not interfering with them.

In fact, just recently the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal declared that private persons have a first amendment right to both record and livestream encounters with police. *Sharpe v. Winterville Police Dep't*, 59 F.4th 674, 681 (4th Cir. 2023). Significantly, the Court found that neither “common sense [n]or caselaw” indicates that a ban on recording law enforcement officers serves the strong public interest in protecting the safety of officers. *Id.* at 682. That ban on recording would be unconstitutional, the Court said, because recordings of law enforcement activities “contribute to discussion about governmental affairs,” and can help to “disseminate...information about a public controversy.” *Id.* at 681.

Those interests may be even more important for the sovereign state of Maryland to undertake in protecting its inhabitants against the kind of lawless violence by ICE agents we saw in Minneapolis. Senate Bill 660 is a 21st Century mechanism for fulfilling the promises of our grand 18th document. In the words of James Madison again, the bill permits, “the state legislatures to be sure guardians of the people's liberty.” James Madison, House of Representatives, **Papers of James Madison** 12:196—209 (June 8, 1789).

**MD SB 0660 Franklin Testimony\_Support .pdf**

Uploaded by: Neill Franklin

Position: FAV



# LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTION PARTNERSHIP

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Date: February 25, 2026

Re: SB 660 - Law Enforcement Response to Immigration Enforcement Action

Position: SUPPORT

To: Maryland Judicial Proceedings Committee

Distinguished Members of the Committee,

My name is Major Neill Franklin (Ret.) and I am here today representing myself, having served a 34-year law enforcement career in the Baltimore Police Department and Maryland State Police, as well as representing the Law Enforcement Action Partnership (LEAP), where I was the executive director for an additional 10 years.

LEAP is an international nonprofit group of police, prosecutors, judges, and other criminal justice professionals who speak from firsthand experience serving in the justice system. Our mission is to make communities safer by focusing law enforcement resources on the greatest threats to public safety, addressing the root causes of crime, and working toward healing police-community relations.

Local and State police officers have taken an oath to protect and serve the people of Maryland. We took an oath to uphold and abide by the constitution of this state, and of the United States. As such, it is our duty to respond when the Constitutional rights of our community members are being violated.

We have unfortunately all seen video evidence of ICE and border patrol agents violating the constitutional rights of law-abiding citizens. Unlawful vehicle pursuits and stops, street detentions, excessive uses of force, and warrantless home invasions, are not legal under state and federal law, and cannot go unchecked. These constitutional violations have led to unnecessary injuries, the detention of legal citizens, and worst of all, the loss of human life.

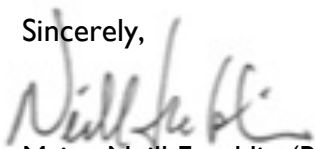
Thankfully, today, the committee has the opportunity to help protect the

constitutional rights of the people of Maryland through passing SB 660. This legislation would require local law enforcement agencies to actively observe and report on all federal immigration activities within their jurisdiction. The responding officer would record the interaction with their body-worn cameras and ensure that any individual in custody is safely detained and transferred. Responding officers would be required to file a detailed report for every interaction between federal immigration officers and people in Maryland. These reports would be stored for a minimum of four years and must document any uses of force or observed legal violations.

In my experience, transparency leads to increased community trust, which is a critical component of effective public safety. Trust affects whether people report crimes, comply with lawful orders, and cooperate during investigations. Policies that reinforce transparency in all law enforcement interactions—state, local, or federal—is key to maintaining public trust. This trust, in turn, fosters safer conditions for all officers and the communities they serve.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my law enforcement perspective in support of SB 660. I appreciate the committee's consideration of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Neill Franklin".

Major Neill Franklin (Ret.)

Maryland State Police

# **Testimony in support of SB0660 - Law Enforcement -**

Uploaded by: Richard KAP Kaplowitz

Position: FAV

SB0660\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV  
02/25/2026  
Richard Keith Kaplowitz  
Frederick, MD 21703-7134

**TESTIMONY ON SB#0660 - POSITION: FAVORABLE**  
**Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions**

**TO:** Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB#/0660, **Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions**

The purpose of this bill is to protect Maryland residents from the multiple cases, both here in Maryland and around the country, from ICE violations regarding the safe transfer of individuals in custody. It will provide the accountability that may be missing or disregarded in these incidents from the lack of proper credential reporting of this immigration enforcement activity. Resistance to inclusion of these common-sense protections of residents of Maryland are the major sticking points in the current funding fight in Congress over DHS funding.

The actions this bill will mandate for Maryland law enforcement agencies are:

On receiving notices of an immigration enforcement action happening in a law enforcement agency's jurisdiction, a law enforcement agency shall dispatch at least one law enforcement officer to:

- ✓ observe the immigration enforcement action
- ✓ ensure the safe transfer of an individual in custody as a result of the immigration enforcement action
- ✓ to the extent practicable, record the immigration enforcement action with the officer's body-worn camera
- ✓ file a report documenting the activity of immigration enforcement officials, including the date, time, and location of the action
  - If applicable, the type of warrant used for the immigration enforcement action
  - what federal agencies were involved with the immigration enforcement action
  - A description of any force used during the immigration enforcement action
  - whether any medical attention was required because of the immigration enforcement action
  - whether the law enforcement officers were restricted from observing or recording the immigration enforcement action
  - any violations of law the officer observed during the immigration enforcement action
  - preserve any evidence related to the immigration enforcement action
- ✓ While responding to an immigration enforcement action, a law enforcement officer shall continue to perform the constitutional obligations of the officer's position.

SB0660\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV

This bill will accomplish its purposes by requiring a law enforcement agency to respond to a report of an immigration enforcement activity within the agency's jurisdiction; requiring a law enforcement officer responding to a report of an immigration enforcement activity to observe and report certain information; and requiring that the reports and recordings created in accordance with the Act are subject to the Public Information Act.

Until the current Federal Administration follows both judicial decisions and constitutional protections Maryland must have these protections in place for its residents.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB0660.**

# **SB 660 - ICE Transparency - wttm Love.pdf**

Uploaded by: Sara Love

Position: FAV

SARA N. LOVE  
Legislative District 16  
Montgomery County

Judicial Proceedings Committee



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Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
410-841-3124 · 301-858-3124  
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Sara.Love@senate.state.md.us

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND  
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

**SB 660 – Law Enforcement – Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions**

Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and colleagues on the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

SB 660 seeks to address a need for transparency when immigration enforcement activity occurs in our neighborhoods, businesses, schools, and homes. In Chicago, Minnesota, Texas, and Maryland, we have witnessed Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents acting recklessly in the performance of their duties. This behavior has led to the death of Alex Pretti and Renee Good, and multiple cases of false and inaccurate reporting, such as in [Maryland](#), [Minneapolis](#), [Chicago](#), and [Texas](#). As a result, it is imperative to create a policy to monitor ICE activity in the state to keep our communities safe and provide a path for justice.

SB 660 would require a Law Enforcement Agency to respond when notified of immigration enforcement action occurring in the State. A law officer would observe ICE's action, record it, and create a report. This report would include information such as the setting, responding federal agencies, use of force, whether medical attention was needed, whether law enforcement was in any way restricted from observing and recording, and any violations the law officer observed. During their observations, law enforcement officers would still be required to perform their required duties, if applicable.

We have seen time and again ICE putting out a statement regarding their activity, only to have that statement contradicted by local law enforcement or by bystander videos. This legislation would ensure transparency and accountability.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your favorable report on SB 660.

**Horvath SB 660 JPR Comm testimony.pdf**

Uploaded by: jane horvath

Position: FWA

Testimony of Jane Horvath  
Indivisible Route 1 Chapter  
Before the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
February 25, 2026  
Regarding SB 660

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this important bill, SB 660. I am Jane Horvath, a 30-year resident of Prince George's County and a member of the Route 1 Corridor Chapter of Indivisible, a national pro-democracy organization. There are about 50 Indivisible chapters in Maryland.

Many chapters are involved in addressing the negative effects of the current federal immigration enforcement. Advocates participate in documenting detentions so that the family can be notified, an attempt can be made to locate where the detainee is taken, resources can be provided to the affected family, and importantly, if possible, that families can be notified that their vehicle is abandoned and where it can be located before it is towed away.

This legislation would provide important back up to residents documenting the abduction of neighbors.

**Top Line Comment:**

The provisions of the bill are robust and can be made more robust if law enforcement is obligated to determine if a vehicle is abandoned as a result of the detention they are observing, at which point law enforcement would access vehicle registration/insurance and use it to locate the family of the detained and let the household know where the vehicle is located. This way, the household may have an opportunity to retrieve the vehicle before it is towed – avoiding impoundment costs the family may not be able to afford. Law enforcement could even relay that information to organized immigrant assistance groups set up to interact with, and assist, immigrant communities and families of the detained.

More generally, our experience in documenting detentions has been that state and local law enforcement are not interested in engaging with ICE agents when there are violations of civil and constitutional rights, or when ICE action threatens public safety. I have met with County Police in Prince George's and they do not feel empowered to address the problems and dangers created by ICE activity. Things will get much worse for all of us if our law enforcement cannot find the means to stand up to ICE now, before things are out of control

detaining immigrants or illegally detaining so-called domestic terrorists (otherwise known as neighbors helping neighbors).

What we have today is the militarization of immigration enforcement – heavily armed, poorly trained, unidentified, high-strung, and thin-skinned agents who seemingly work for the sport of it and have no understanding of the First Amendment. That is why this period in immigration enforcement is so very different than enforcement efforts of the past and why local law enforcement oversight is so critical and SB 660 so important.

# **NASW Maryland - 2026 SB 660 FWA - Law Enforcement**

Uploaded by: Karessa Proctor

Position: FWA



**February 25, 2026**

**Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee**

**Senate Bill 660 – Public Safety – Law Enforcement – Response to Immigration  
Enforcement Actions**

**Position: FAVORABLE WITH AMENDMENTS**

Chair and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the National Association of Social Workers – Maryland Chapter (NASW-MD), which represents more than 2,600 licensed social workers across the state, we respectfully submit this testimony in support of Maryland Senate Bill 660 with amendments.

SB 660 is an important step toward transparency and accountability when federal immigration enforcement actions occur within Maryland communities. Requiring local law enforcement to respond, document activity, and utilize body-worn cameras when practicable creates a clear public record of events that often generate fear, confusion, and community concern. Transparency protects residents, law enforcement personnel, and public institutions alike.

However, immigration enforcement actions frequently involve children, families, older adults, and individuals experiencing significant emotional distress. These encounters can be traumatic and destabilizing, even when no criminal charges are involved. From a social work and public health perspective, the presence of trained behavioral health professionals can significantly reduce harm.

NASW-MD respectfully requests an amendment requiring that, when practicable and available, a licensed social worker or qualified crisis response professional be dispatched alongside law enforcement in response to immigration enforcement actions.

The inclusion of a social worker would:

- Support de-escalation in high-stress situations
- Provide immediate trauma-informed assistance to children and vulnerable individuals
- Help families access community resources and stabilization services
- Reduce the risk of emotional harm and long-term psychological impact
- Strengthen community trust in public safety responses

(over)



Maryland has been a leader in advancing co-responder and crisis intervention models. Integrating social workers into responses to immigration enforcement actions aligns with evidence-based best practices and enhances public safety without interfering with federal authority or the bill's transparency objectives.

SB 660 establishes an accountability framework. Adding a social work component ensures that Maryland's response is not only transparent, but also humane and trauma informed.

For these reasons, NASW-MD respectfully urges the Committee to issue a favorable report with amendments to incorporate licensed social workers or crisis response professionals when practicable.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation.

Respectfully submitted,

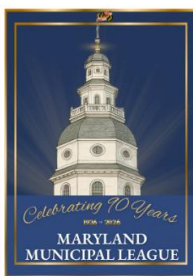
Karessa Proctor, BSW, MSW  
Executive Director  
National Association of Social Workers – Maryland Chapter

Philip Pratt  
Board President  
National Association of Social Workers – Maryland Chapter  
Representing more than 2,600 social workers statewide

**SB 660 - UNF - MML.pdf**

Uploaded by: Angelica Bailey Thupari

Position: UNF



## TESTIMONY

**COMMITTEE:** Senate Judicial Proceedings

**DATE:** February 24, 2026

**POSITION:** Unfavorable

**BILL:** Senate Bill 660

The Maryland Municipal League (MML) respectfully opposes Senate Bill 660. We acknowledge the seriousness of the issues this legislation seeks to address. Municipalities do not take lightly questions involving constitutional rights, public accountability, or community trust. Our opposition is not rooted in the broader politics of immigration enforcement but on the operational responsibilities this would place on local law enforcement agencies.

SB 660 mandates that local agencies respond whenever they receive notice of a federal immigration enforcement action in their jurisdiction. Agencies must dispatch at least one officer to observe and, where practicable, record the event, generate detailed reports, preserve records for extended periods, and ensure the safe transfer of any individual taken into custody.

The “safe transfer” requirement is particularly concerning. Requiring a municipal officer to ensure the transfer of an individual in federal custody blurs the lines between separate sovereign law enforcement entities. The bill does not clearly define the officer’s authority, the scope of responsibility, or how liability would be allocated if an injury occurs. It is also unclear whether this language creates an affirmative legal duty that could expose municipalities to tort or civil rights claims. This ambiguity presents significant and unnecessary legal risk.

The bill also diverts limited personnel from core public safety responsibilities by requiring dispatch upon notice, regardless of call volume or competing emergencies. For smaller departments especially, mandatory observation of federal activity strains already limited staffing.

Finally, the extensive reporting, body-worn camera, retention, and public disclosure requirements create additional administrative burden and potential unfunded costs, while raising privacy and officer safety concerns.

Municipal concern is practical: SB 660 imposes new mandates and liability exposure on local police departments without clear authority, indemnification, or resources. For these reasons, the Maryland Municipal League respectfully requests an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 660.

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For more information relating to this piece of testimony, please contact:  
Angelica Bailey Thupari: Director, Advocacy and Public Policy, [angelicab@mdmunicipal.org](mailto:angelicab@mdmunicipal.org)

*MML represents 88 municipal police departments and roughly 4,000 officers.*

**SB0660writtentestimonyPDF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Daniel Franklin

Position: UNF



# Morningside Police Department

6901 Ames Street  
Morningside, MD 20746  
Phone: 301-736-7400



**Daniel J. Franklin**  
**Chief of Police**

**TO:** Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
The Honorable Senator William C. Smith, Jr. – Chair

**FROM:** Chief Daniel J. Franklin #0255  
Morningside Police Department

**RE:** Written Testimony Opposing SB 0660  
Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions

**DATE:** February 23, 2026

Greetings Chairman Smith and the members of the Maryland Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee.

My name is Daniel Franklin, and I am the Chief of Police for the Morningside Police Department in Prince George's County, Maryland. I provide this testimony representing the Maryland Chiefs and Sheriffs Associations. After careful review of SB 0660 sponsored by Senator Love, I am submitting this written testimony **STRONGLY OPPOSING** the passage of the bill.

**Title 18 U.S. Code § 1512** refers to hindering a federal investigation. Under the below sections of Title 18 Section 1512, it is stated that:

*(d) Whoever intentionally harasses another person and thereby hinders, delays, prevents, or dissuades any person from*

*(3) arresting or seeking the arrest of another person in connection with a Federal offense;*

*or attempts to do so, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 3 years, or both.*

In contrast, the proposed legislation titled **Senate Bill 0660** requires:

*Public Safety Article 3-535*

*(B)(1)(IV) - FILE A REPORT DOCUMENTING THE ACTIVITY OF IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS, INCLUDING:*

*1. THE DATE, TIME, AND LOCATION OF THE ACTION;*

*2. IF APPLICABLE, THE TYPE OF WARRANT USED FOR THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION;*

*3. WHAT FEDERAL AGENCIES WERE INVOLVED WITH THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION;*

4. *A DESCRIPTION OF ANY FORCE USED DURING THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION;*
5. *WHETHER ANY MEDICAL ATTENTION WAS REQUIRED AS A RESULT OF THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION;*
6. *WHETHER THE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WERE RESTRICTED FROM OBSERVING OR RECORDING THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION; AND*
7. *ANY VIOLATIONS OF LAW THE OFFICER OBSERVED DURING THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION; AND*

*(V) PRESERVE ANY EVIDENCE RELATED TO THE IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION.*

Effectively, this bill requires a “Law Enforcement Agency”, (meaning a governmental police force, sheriff’s office, or security force or law enforcement organization of the State, a county, or a municipal corporation that by statute, ordinance, or common law is authorized to enforce the general criminal laws of the State) to assign an Officer or Deputy to violate Title 18 of the U.S. Code, which can result in their arrest. Title 18 does not specify what degree of federal offense is being enforced. This means that any Federal offenses that Federal agencies are attempting to arrest for are covered by this section of Title 18. While I presume the argument will be made that this is requiring Maryland law enforcement to “do their jobs”, I will provide some insight on exactly what that involves pertaining to this proposed legislation.

First, this legislation seeks to override approved departmental policy on incidents that require a report to be written or filed. **This immediately removes a law enforcement officer from service to their community and has a negative impact on service to the citizens of their respective jurisdictions.** Adding another required report (especially with the mandates noted in this proposed legislation) and the mandated retention of video and documentation adds fiscal constraints. Police are already required to record and retain nearly every action or encounter daily, and this proposed legislation adds more recording and retention with no fiscal relief to absorb the budget impact. For a smaller department such as mine (11 sworn Officers), this poses a significant increase in cloud storage fees, data processing fees, and added man hours to review these incidents. In short, this is another unfunded mandate. The increased data costs as well as the increased personnel hours to document and manage the requested information will increase budgets with zero fiscal assistance. For a small agency such as mine, the unfunded mandates have a significant effect on the yearly budget.

Second, this legislation requires (if applicable) the type of warrant used for the immigration action to be noted in the report. The legislation provides no standard of documentation. Sworn law enforcement officers cannot file a false report under penalties of law, so they will then be **required to verify** the warrant being served. Speaking from personal experience, verification of a warrant requires a physical inspection of a physical document, especially since Maryland law enforcement does not have access to Federal databases to request a verification by radio or phone. This process intentionally unnecessarily delays the arrest, **which is a violation of Title 18 that an Officer or Deputy can be arrested for.** As a Chief of Police, I cannot fathom willingly sending one of my Officers to disobey Federal law and knowingly commit an act that will cause their arrest. I am sworn to do the opposite of what this proposed legislation requires.

*(2) WHILE RESPONDING TO AN IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT ACTION, A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER SHALL CONTINUE TO PERFORM THE CONSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATIONS OF THE OFFICER’S POSITION.*

The most Constitutional obligation that a police officer has is to uphold the law. If this potential legislation is enacted, that Constitutional obligation is immediately compromised as it requires an officer to knowingly hinder a federal investigation. As I have previously stated, hindering a federal investigation is a crime.

Lastly, this proposed legislation effectively requires a State, County, or Municipal Officer (or Deputy Sheriff) to exercise authority over Federal agencies while they are performing essential functions of their jobs. The supremacy clause of the United States Constitution is very clear that this cannot happen, and that laws made under the authority of the United States “shall be the supreme law of the land.”

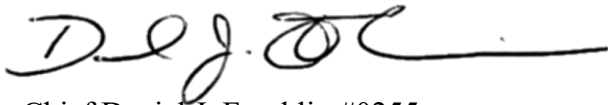
**The Constitution of the United States: Article VI, Clause 2:**

*This Constitution, and the Laws of the United States which shall be made in Pursuance thereof; and all Treaties made, or which shall be made, under the Authority of the United States, shall be the supreme Law of the Land; and the Judges in every State shall be bound thereby, any Thing in the Constitution or Laws of any State to the Contrary notwithstanding.*

For all the reasons that I have listed above, I respectfully request your consideration of my position of **OPPOSING** the passage of SB 0660 and further respectfully request an unfavorable recommendation on this proposed legislation.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. J. Franklin', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chief Daniel J. Franklin #0255  
Morningside Police Department

# **SB660 - Worcester County Sheriff's Office - OPPOSE**

Uploaded by: Matt Crisafulli

Position: UNF

# Worcester County Sheriff's Office

Matthew Crisafulli  
Sheriff



Nathaniel Passwaters  
Chief Deputy

## Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony. I respectfully **oppose Senate Bill 660 (SB 660)**, titled *Public Safety Law Enforcement, Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions*.

SB 660 would require that when a law enforcement agency receives a report of an immigration enforcement action occurring within the agency's jurisdiction, the responding deputy must observe and document specific details regarding that event, and that such records would become subject to the Maryland Public Information Act.

While the bill may be well-intended in seeking transparency, *it conflates routine public safety duties with immigration enforcement in ways that jeopardize core law enforcement functions, operational flexibility, and community trust, especially among impacted populations.*

Law enforcement agencies are not and should not be deputized as immigration enforcement authorities. Immigration actions, including arrests or detentions pursuant to federal immigration law, are federal responsibilities handled by *United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)* or other federal bodies. Imposing a statutory mandate to respond, document, and report on these events expands local duties beyond core public safety roles.

This conflation risks diverting deputies from their primary roles of investigating crimes, preserving evidence, responding to emergencies, and protecting victims and witnesses.

Placing immigration enforcement reports under the *Public Information Act* raises serious concerns about sensitive information being publicly accessible, including the identities of crime victims or witnesses who may be unwilling to come forward if they fear public exposure of their immigration status or interaction with law enforcement.

Transparent policing is important, but so is protecting individuals' confidentiality and ensuring victims feel safe reporting crimes without fear of immigration consequences.

Communities, particularly immigrant communities, already express hesitation in reporting crimes due to fear of immigration consequences. Mandating law enforcement to actively document and publicize encounters related to immigration enforcement actions may further erode trust and discourage cooperation with law enforcement in legitimate criminal matters, undermining public safety.

Effective policing depends on strong community partnerships, and any statutory requirement that blurs the lines between local law enforcement and federal immigration machinery risks damaging those partnerships.

For the reasons outlined above, including operational inefficiency, privacy and public records concerns, adverse effects on community trust, and redundancy with existing systems, I respectfully urge this Committee to **issue an unfavorable report on SB 660**.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

**“Proud to Protect, Ready to Serve”**

**Worcester County Sheriff's Office**  
One West Market Street, Room 1001  
Snow Hill, MD 21863  
410-632-1111- phone / 410-632-3070- fax  
[www.WorcesterSheriff.com](http://www.WorcesterSheriff.com)

# **SB660 - Worcester County Sheriff's Office - OPPOSE**

Uploaded by: Matthew Crisafulli

Position: UNF

# Worcester County Sheriff's Office

Matthew Crisafulli  
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**SB660\_UNFAV\_HCGCassilly.pdf**

Uploaded by: Robert Cassilly

Position: UNF

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**ROBERT G. CASSILLY**  
Harford County Executive



**ROBERT S. McCORD**  
Director of Administration

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February 23, 2026

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chair, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Opposition to Senate Bill 660 – Public Safety – Law Enforcement – Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions

Dear Chairman Smith and Committee Members,

On behalf of the citizens of Harford County, I respectfully submit this letter in opposition to Senate Bill 660.

The safety of our residents remains the highest priority of local government. Law enforcement agencies must retain the discretion and operational flexibility necessary to respond immediately and appropriately to active crimes, emergencies, and threats within their communities. SB 660 creates a new statutory requirement for local law enforcement agencies to respond to and document reports of immigration enforcement activities. As drafted, the bill is unclear regarding the scope, timing, and prioritization of these responses, raising significant operational concerns.

Local dispatch centers and law enforcement agencies continuously triage calls for service based on urgency and public safety risk. Mandating a required response to reported immigration enforcement activities — regardless of whether a crime is occurring — risks diverting limited law enforcement resources away from active criminal investigations, emergency calls, and immediate threats to public safety. At a time when departments face staffing shortages and increasing service demands, the State should not impose additional response mandates that could interfere with the proper prioritization of law enforcement resources.

Moreover, SB 660 represents an inappropriate intrusion into local operational decision-making. Determining how officers are deployed, how calls are prioritized, and how resources are allocated is a core function of local law enforcement leadership. These decisions require real-time judgment based on community needs, staffing availability, and public safety risks. The State should not attempt to dictate how local agencies allocate personnel or respond to non-criminal activities occurring within their jurisdiction.

The Honorable William Smith  
Senate Bill 660 Opposition Letter  
February 23, 2026  
Page 2

The bill also creates additional reporting and documentation requirements without clear guidance on implementation or funding. Any new mandates placed on local agencies must be precise, fully funded, and carefully structured to avoid unintended consequences that compromise public safety operations.

Harford County supports transparency and accountability in law enforcement, but such efforts must not come at the expense of emergency response readiness or local control over policing priorities.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 660.

Thank you.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bob", written over the typed name "Robert G. Cassilly".

Robert G. Cassilly

# **MCPA-MSA - SB 660 Reponse to Immigration Enforceme**

Uploaded by: Samira Jackson

Position: UNF



# Maryland Chiefs of Police Association

## Maryland Sheriffs' Association



### MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr., Chair and  
Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Darren Popkin, Executive Director, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee  
Samira Jackson, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: February 25, 2026

RE: **SB 660 - Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement  
Actions**

POSITION: **OPPOSE**

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) **OPPOSE SB 660**. This bill requires local law enforcement agencies to respond to and document reports of federal immigration enforcement activity occurring within their jurisdictions, regardless of whether there is a corresponding public safety concern. This mandate places local agencies in the position of monitoring federal civil enforcement actions that are outside the scope of their authority and core mission.

SB 660 would divert personnel and resources away from responding to violent crime, property offenses, traffic safety concerns, and other urgent calls for service. Officers would be required to leave active patrol assignments to observe, record, document, and retain information regarding federal immigration actions that local agencies have no authority to control or direct. In an era of staffing shortages and increasing service demands, mandating this additional layer of oversight is unnecessary and operationally burdensome.

Further, the required documentation and public disclosure obligations create significant administrative strain. Agencies would be compelled to dedicate time and resources to compliance functions that do not enhance crime prevention or community safety. Local law enforcement should remain focused on protecting Maryland communities from criminal activity within their jurisdiction, rather than being tasked with oversight responsibilities over federal enforcement actions.

For these reasons, MCPA and MSA **OPPOSE SB 660** and urge an **UNFAVORABLE** committee report.

# **SB 660\_ Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Respons**

Uploaded by: Trudy Tibbals

Position: UNF

**SB 660:** Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions: Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am writing to express my strong **opposition** to Senate Bill 660, "Public Safety - Law Enforcement - Response to Immigration Enforcement Actions."

This legislation would mandate that Maryland's local law enforcement agencies actively respond to and monitor federal immigration enforcement operations, including dispatching officers to observe ICE or other federal actions, record them, ensure "safe transfers" of detained individuals, and produce detailed public reports on federal activities. These requirements impose unnecessary burdens on already resource-strained police departments, diverting officers from core public safety duties such as responding to violent crimes, traffic incidents, or community emergencies.

Immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility under the U.S. Constitution, and **local law enforcement should not be compelled to surveil or document federal civil immigration actions.** Mandating such involvement will create conflicts with federal authority, exposing officers and agencies to liability, and eroding trust in law enforcement by positioning them as overseers of federal operations rather than neutral protectors of public safety. Requiring body-worn camera recording and public disclosure of these interactions will also compromise operational security, officer safety, and/or sensitive federal tactics.

Maryland already maintains strong protections for community members, including recent laws limiting formal cooperation with federal immigration enforcement. **SB 660** forces active local intervention and documentation, which could compromise federal enforcement efforts, strain limited resources, and politicize routine policing. **Local agencies should focus on state and local laws, not be required to monitor or report on federal civil immigration matters.**

I urge the Committee to **give SB 660 an unfavorable report** and prevent its passage. Protecting law enforcement resources, maintaining clear federal-state boundaries, and prioritizing core public safety missions are essential for Maryland residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Trudy Tibbals