

HB0444 Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition

SUPPORT HB 0444

Hearing in the Judiciary Committee, January 27, 2026

Dear Chairperson Bartlett and Vice Chair Davis and Delegates on the Judiciary Committee:

I am a resident of Severna Park Maryland (D31) and I am writing to ask you to **give a favorable vote on HB 0444**, which would prohibit immigration enforcement agreements with local law enforcement agencies in Maryland. I strongly believe that the agreements between immigration agencies and local law enforcement must be abolished across the entire state, as they already have in Anne Arundel County. Over the past year, immigration agencies such as ICE have been terrorizing citizens with increasingly aggressive and militarized tactics as well as actions that are clearly unconstitutional. Tragically, this has led to the wounding and death of innocent citizens. I recently read that ICE has almost tripled its number of arrests over the past year, fomenting fear and distrust in our communities. We have seen on news reports that ICE has done untold damage in communities in states such as Minnesota and that the federal government is stepping up its terrorization of citizens in these states. Immigration enforcement agreements create more distrust and alienation between local law enforcement and communities, which creates greater risk of danger and harm for all.

Maryland must take decisive steps to protect all residents of our state from the harm that ICE is perpetrating. Local law enforcement officials should not be partnering with ICE. Local law enforcement should not be abetting the unlawful and cruel work that our Immigration officials and agents are doing.

I strongly urge you to SUPPORT HB 0444.

Sincerely,

Abbie Ellicott
Severna Park, MD 21146