

Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition / HB0444

Official Testimony

Position: **FAVORABLE**

To the Judiciary Committee,

My name is Elizabeth Murphy, and I'm a Baltimore City resident and a member of District 46. I support HB0444, Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition.

This bill will ban state and local law enforcement from entering into immigration enforcement agreements with the federal government and require termination of any such agreements.

287(g) programs and undermine the safety and well-being of all Marylanders. Across the country, these programs have led to civil rights violations, widespread racial profiling, family separation, isolation of immigrant communities, and the misuse of local resources.

When our immigrant neighbors are potentially imperiled by any interaction with law enforcement, they are far less likely to seek help from police, report crimes, or testify in court. This makes all of us less safe. Moreover, 287(g) agreements are a drain on local resources—localities participating in this program tend to divert limited public safety resources away from local priorities such as investigating violent crimes.

At a time when the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) is terrorizing communities across the country—abducting, assaulting, and even killing people—Maryland must set a standard to uphold democratic principles, and protect all those who reside here.

I respectfully urge this committee to issue a favorable report on **HB0444, Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition**.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Murphy

District 46

(540)270-4110