

## **HB 444 Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements - Prohibition**

### **Support**

Maryland House of Delegates  
Judiciary Committee

Jan. 27, 2026

As a Harford County resident, I enthusiastically support **HB 444 Public Safety - Immigration Enforcement Agreements – Prohibition** which eliminates the use of the 287(g) agreement between the U.S. Attorney General's Office and Harford County using the Jail Enforcement Model. Regardless of the type of model (Jail, Warrant Service Officer, or Task Force), it isn't in the best interest to have such cooperation with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) regarding immigration enforcement given the poor training, lack of use of due process, and the inept judgement of those administering enforcement.

Just because someone is arrested doesn't mean that they have been found guilty of a crime. It is expected for a person to be detained temporarily under reasonable suspicion for a crime until some solid evidence is found. Yet, until a trial has found a person guilty, that person should be reported to DHS. This isn't about public safety especially considering that people don't commit crimes based on the country in which they were born. The integrity of using that as an excuse has been weakened especially since the highest executor in office released American criminals, many of whom who have repeated crimes since being released.

This absence of integrity is manifested in training and is exhibited via personnel. I am asking for the safety of detainees as well as ordinary residents in Harford County that members of the Judiciary Committee support the prohibition of the "287(g) agreements" authorized under the Attorney General of the United States. Based on current practice, there is no need to allow Harford County, via the Sheriff's Department, "to perform a function of an immigration officer in relation to the investigation, apprehension, or detention of aliens in the United States."

While it is required for participating personnel to have adequate training regarding immigration law I have zero confidence in the training given the killings, beatings, and lawlessness I have witnessed in the public eye. The "287(g)" agreement authorizes Harford County law enforcement to execute detainees and administrative warrants issued by the Department of Homeland Security. I don't have any confidence that warrants are being used consistently. I believe that there has been an expansive sweeping approach to detaining individuals who became unlawful given the President's restriction of policies under which these residents were here lawfully.

Until only reasonably suspected criminals are sought under the policies prior to the current federal Administration are the objective for deportation **and** that due process is allowed for existing detainees and deported individuals, should then the "287(g)" agreement continue to exist within Harford County as well as the entire state of Maryland. **It is for these reasons that I urge a favorable vote on House Bill 444.**

Sincerely,

**Marla Posey-Moss**

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