

Andrew Lewis

685 Winding Stream Way, Odenton MD, 21113

District 21

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 0351, Public Safety - Federal Agents - Digital Unmasking

2/18/2026

TO: Chair J. Sandy Bartlett & Members of the House Judiciary Committee

FROM: Andrew Lewis

Members of the Judiciary Committee, my name is Andrew Lewis, I live in Odenton, Maryland, and I am writing to support HB 0351, to allow Maryland to hold federal agents accountable and track known complaints against them.

Accountability is the cornerstone of any form of society. Any place where two or more people meet, be it for commerce; camaraderie, or politics, history shapes these interactions. If I cannot look back and recall how much a grocer charges me for an apple, how can I pay them? If my doctor does not sign my prescription, how will I get my needed medication from a pharmacy?

The ability to look back, and identify who, did what, and when, is central to our ability to have any mutual understanding. How then, can we expect our Nation to function without accountability in its law enforcement? A population of citizens, empowered by the State to make choices not only of life and death, but of freedom and detainment, must be held accountable. While it is true that members of Law enforcement do require certain protections to make their jobs possible, too many protections make our watchmen unwatchable. Those whom the Federal Government empowers to use force should be held more accountable for their actions, not less.

Masks create anonymity, turning the very people we should be looking to for safety and comfort into faceless danger. It turns them from human beings to unaccountable arms of an already dangerous and Authoritarian Federal government.

Please let Maryland be a safer place for all of us than elsewhere in our country. Allowing State law enforcement to help us hold Federal Agents accountable for their actions is one small step we can take in order to give Maryland Citizens some protection against abuse. I urge you to support HB 0351 and hold federal agents accountable in our state.

Andrew