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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: Chris Apple

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

The current administration's penchant for ignoring - or pardoning - violent and inhumane acts against its citizens and peaceful immigrants means that victims of these acts may never get justice. It is important that we, as Marylanders, keep track of federal agents' misconduct in our state, lest malicious actors have free reign to misbehave on our streets, and get away with it. Due process is for everyone, and everyone should be held to the same standard of it. "Digitally unmasking" agents operating in our state is one step towards upholding that standard.

Under any other circumstances, an anonymous criminal would be threatening in every sense of the word - to the community, to the state, to the country. Maryland should be a place where we uphold the values of law and order that the current administration has foregone in favor of militaristic authoritarian power grabs.

I urge you to support HB 0351 and hold federal agents accountable in our state to the extent possible.