

TESTIMONY FOR HB0351 Public Safety – Federal Agents – Digital Unmasking

Position: FAVORABLE

Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Committee,

I am a resident of District 41 and the President of Be the Change, a social justice organization.

Across the country, questions about digital surveillance, federal-state coordination, and transparency in law-enforcement encounters have been front-page news. With digital systems—body-worn cameras, automated tools, and online communications—our state needs a clear mechanism to preserve evidence and determine identities when concerns arise. HB0351 provides that clarity without interfering with federal authority or presuming wrongdoing.

HB0351 strengthens public trust by ensuring that Marylanders who report misconduct have a meaningful path forward, while also ensuring that federal agents are protected by a consistent, fair process. It is a balanced reform that reinforces democratic accountability at a moment when communities are asking for exactly that.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge a FAVORABLE report on HB0351.

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