

SB 0001 Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Prohibition on Face Coverings—SUPPORT

Judicial Proceedings Committee, hearing January 22, 2026 at 1:00 pm

SUPPORT SB0001

Dear Chairperson Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher and Senators on the Judicial Proceedings Committee:

I am a resident of Severna Park Maryland (District 31) and I am urging you to give a favorable vote on SB 0001 which would prohibit face coverings on law enforcement officers.

I am deeply concerned about the increased use of masks and face coverings on law enforcement officers, including ICE agents and Customs and Border Protection officers. The use of face coverings on law enforcement officers leads to heightened fear and anxiety for our citizens causing unnecessary and harmful trauma and escalating the risk of danger. It also erodes the public's trust in law enforcement. Legitimate law enforcement officers who are performing their job duties appropriately and lawfully should not have to disguise their identities. Law enforcement officers need to be identifiable in case there is an incident involving a citizen that requires investigation.

Please give a favorable vote to SB0001 and help to stop the dangerous practice of law enforcement concealing their identities via face coverings.

Sincerely,

Abbie Ellicott
Severna Park, MD 21146