

January 22, 2026

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**TESTIMONY ON SB0001 – IN SUPPORT**

**Public Safety – Law Enforcement – Prohibition on Face Covering**

**TO:** Chair William C. Smith, Jr., Vice Chair Jeff Waldstreicher, and members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

**FROM:** Ydelka A. Schrock

My name is Ydelka A. Schrock. I am a resident of Harford County District 34A. I am submitting this testimony in support of SB0001, Public Safety – Law Enforcement – Prohibition on Face Covering, on behalf of Together We Will Harford County Indivisible (TWW). TWW is an inclusive and diverse group of 500 regular members, with over 1,000 followers on social media, working together to create a just community that empowers individuals to participate in our democracy and stand up for social, racial, and economic justice to create a place where all can thrive.

The success of the United States comes, from our longstanding tradition of encouraging people seeking a better life to leave everything they know and contribute to our Country. Immigrants both documented and undocumented have played a crucial role in enriching our economy, fostering innovation, and enhancing the cultural diversity which plays a vital role in the societal development of the United States. Now they are being scapegoated and demonized.

In America we continue to see images of our neighbors being grabbed off the streets by masked, armed men, and taken away to unknown locations bearing a fearsome resemblance to the oppressive tactics of authoritarian regimes, not a democratic one. ICE and CBP agents who wear masks and fail to wear identification, instill fear and distrust in the community and exhibit a lack of accountability when their actions become aggressively violent. Transparency and accountability are essential, and law enforcement should serve openly and honestly, not in secrecy or deception.

Our greatness comes from the coalescence of the multigenerational immigrants from all over the world that reside in this country. Just as police show their faces during an arrest, ICE and CBP agents should be required to clearly identify themselves and have their faces visible.

On behalf of TWW, I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on SB0001.