



**TESTIMONY FOR**  
**HB1415 – Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Identification**

**Bill Sponsor:** Delegate Moreno

**Committee:** House Judiciary

**Organization Submitting:** Maryland Legislative Coalition

**Person Submitting:** Aileen Alex, Co-Chair

**Position:** FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in support of HB1415 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. We are an association of unpaid citizen advocates—individuals and grassroots groups in every district across the state—representing and supporting more than 30,000 Marylanders.

HB1415 strengthens civil rights and accountability by requiring the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to establish a model policy by requiring the use of identification by a law enforcement officer in the course of duty. That policy must ensure the following –

- It must promote public safety
- It must prevent law enforcement impersonation
- It must promote transparency and accountability

Once the policy is established, all law enforcement officers in the state must adhere to it, whether they are employed by a law enforcement agency of the state, another state, or federal.

Any officer who knowingly or willfully fails to adhere to the established standards is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not exceeding 2 years or a fine not exceeding 18 \$2,000 or both. That officer also waives all immunity in a civil action for damages based on the violation. A violation of this section constitutes police misconduct.

In this day, where federal officers run around masked to terrorize people, we need to set professional standards that should have been obvious from the beginning.

We respectfully urge a **FAVORABLE** report on HB1262.