

HB 332 - FAV
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Testimony on House Bill – Favorable

HB 332 Civil Actions - Violation of Constitutional Rights (No Kings Act)

The House Judiciary Committee

February 18, 2026

Dear Honorable Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis , and Members of the Committee,

My name is Ruth White and I live in District 13, Howard County Maryland. I am writing in support of HB 332, Civil Actions - Violation of Constitutional Rights (No Kings Act)

Like so many others I have watched videos of federal officers violating the constitutional rights of citizens in Maryland and other states. In the absence of federal protections. As citizens we need access to courts that state governments can provide to protect our constitutional rights.

A few reasons you should pass this statewide bill:

- This bill expands Legal Recourse: It defines "law" broadly to include the U.S. Constitution, the Maryland Declaration of Rights, and the Maryland Constitution and thus would include protection against unlawful violations by federal officials. I understand both California and New York are seeking to pass versions of this bill.
- This bill would deter violations by providing remedies.
- This bill authorizes reasonable attorney's fees and expert witness fees, thus removing some financial barriers.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report** on HB 332.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Ruth White