

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

Position - Favorable

February 16, 2026

To the honorable Chair and Members of House Judiciary Committee.

My name is Lesley Frost and I am the Chair of National Council of Jewish Women, Maryland State Policy Advocacy Committee (NCJW MD SPA) and I am writing to express strong support for HB 332 - Civil Actions - Violation of Constitutional Rights (No Kings Act).

Currently we are facing unlawful actions by various federal agencies. Particularly alarming are the most recent actions of ICE agents in Minneapolis who have entered homes without judicial warrants, detained U.S. citizens, and even shot protestors. If a state or local official violates our rights, we have a path to hold them accountable (the Civil Rights Act of 1964, also known as 42 USC 1983). But when federal officers violate those same rights, there is often no remedy.

HB 322 closes that loophole by allowing Marylanders to use their own Maryland courts to defend their constitutional rights and sue federal officials who violate those rights.

NCJW is the oldest grassroots Jewish organization in this country and has through our actions and resolutions worked for "The enactment, enforcement, and preservation of laws and regulations that protect civil rights and individual liberties for all," and also for "The protection of democracy and the rule of law, and resistance to all anti-democratic movements."

We strongly urge the House Judiciary Committee to consider and report favorable on HB 332 - Civil Actions - Violation of Constitutional Rights (No Kings Act).

Sincerely,
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