

Testimony on House Bill 155 – Favorable  
HB155 – Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Prohibition on Face Coverings  
House Judiciary Committee  
February 20, 2026

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

My name is Michelle Koul, and I am a constituent of District 31. I am writing **in support of HB155 – Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Prohibition on Face Coverings.**

I am the daughter of a retired NYPD Sergeant, the mother of a 23y old daughter living alone in Minneapolis and a resident of District 31. It pains me to see my father's anguish at the harm ICE is doing to the reputation of all law enforcement due ICE's obvious lack of training and the orders they have been given. I am kept up at night *not* because I fear that my daughter will be a victim of crime - instead I am worried that she will be victim of my government's federal forces. It is insane.

This bill is unfortunately necessary to prepare Maryland for what is coming: an untrained secret police force who has been given permission to violate the constitutional rights of citizens and non-citizens alike. Uncovering their faces is a small act that might cause them to temper their actions, and if not, at least give some recourse to victims in civil proceedings that might hold the offenders accountable.

Law enforcement should not be afraid to show their faces, period.

As a recently retired 25y faculty member at USNA, I myself am not unfamiliar with what the role of law enforcement and the military *should* be in our society. This is not it. I thank my lucky stars I landed in Maryland, and please do your part to protect us from the federal chaos. Please vote yes on HB155.

Thank you for your time and consideration,  
*Dr. Michelle Koul (she/her)*  
*Severna Park, MD 21146*  
*The views expressed are those of the author*  
*and do not necessarily reflect the official*  
*position of the Department of Defense.*