

HB0832_RichardKaplowitz_FAV

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Richard Keith Kaplowitz

Frederick, MD 21703

TESTIMONY ON HB#0832- POSITION: FAVORABLE

Public Safety - State Law Enforcement Agencies - Hiring Restriction (ICE Breaker Act)

TO: Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and members of the Judiciary Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Keith Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#0832, Public Safety - State Law Enforcement Agencies - Hiring Restriction (ICE Breaker Act)

The PBS News Hour reported on the testimony of Ryan Schwank, *Whistleblower warns ICE has slashed training for recruits*¹

A former ICE lawyer is warning that the agency has scaled back training hours for recruits and is instructing them to violate the Constitution. Ryan Schwank says the academy where he trained cadets is "deficient, defective and broken." He says it's part of the administration's effort to churn out new officers and increase arrests.

As shown on news programs across the media, both online and televised, ICE agents routinely ignore the Constitution and the laws governing police conduct.

Community policing requires trust between law enforcement and the communities they swear to serve and protect. The conduct of the ICE officers hired by the Federal Administration and set loose to prey on the streets on both immigrants and citizens alike has been fully documented. These ICE agents are not psychologically fit or trained to serve in a police role interacting with populations.

This bill will prohibit State law enforcement agencies from hiring individuals who were hired as sworn officers by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement after January 20, 2025.

We should not permit these thugs masquerading as police officers from ever serving as police anywhere in the state of Maryland.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#0832.

¹ <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/whistleblower-warns-ice-has-slashed-training-for-recruits>