



TESTIMONY TO THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HB1415 - PUBLIC SAFETY – LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS – IDENTIFICATION

POSITION: FAVORABLE

By: Linda T. Kohn, President

Date: March 10, 2026

The League of Women Voters supports a criminal justice system that is transparent and promotes police accountability. The League, further, endorses policies that advance safety for both law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.

Along these lines, **HB1415** directs the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop a policy that would help to prevent law enforcement impersonation that could easily endanger the lives of both officers of the law and the people they attend. With specific exceptions, the policy would require all federal, state and local law enforcement officers operating as such in the state of Maryland to be easily identified as persons who are conducting activities in that capacity. Failure to adhere to the policy would be classified as police misconduct, and violators would be charged with a misdemeanor.

Because these provisions are well aligned with our stated positions, the **League of Women Voters of Maryland**, representing nearly 2,000 citizens throughout Maryland, **strongly urges you to issue a FAVORABLE report.**