

**AnnaRubin\_HB0155\_FAV**

**Feb. 18, 2026**

**Dr. Anna Rubin**

**Columbia, MD 21045**

**HB 155: Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Prohibition on Face Covering**

TO: Honorable Delegate Bartlett and Vice Chair, Davis and members of theHouse Judiciary Committee

FROM: Dr. Anna Rubin

DATE:, February 20, 2026

My name is Anna Rubin. I am a resident of District 13. I am submitting this testimony in support of **HB0155**. I am writing as an artist, a retired educator, and someone involved in a number of Jewish and civic organizations. I am chair of the Columbia Jewish Congregation Social Justice Committee.

The Torah commands us to pursue justice, and our sages instruct us that the methods we use to do so must be just themselves. Like so many others I have watched videos of federal officers violating the constitutional rights of citizens in Maryland and other states and preserving their anonymity by wearing masks. As citizens we need access to courts that state governments can provide to protect our constitutional rights.

Maryland law enforcement officers are now required to keep their faces uncovered and to clearly identify their names except for certain circumstances.

- Many other states have similar laws.
- Transparency increases community collaboration, holds officers accountable, and helps deescalate potential violence.
- ICE agents should not be above the law.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the committee to issue a **favorable report** on **HB0155**.

Thank you for your time and consideration.