

HB1262_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
03/05/2026
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**TESTIMONY ON HB#1262 - POSITION: FAVORABLE
Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers - Restrictions**

TO: Chair Bartlett, Vice Chair Davis, and members of the Judiciary Committee
FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3, Frederick County. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#/1262, **Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers – Restrictions**

Brookings has found *ICE expansion has outpaced accountability. What are the remedies?*¹

Steps to reduce violence immediately

Accordingly, there are a series of measures that can be implemented immediately to reduce the use of force and improve decision-making.

- First, hiring standards should be improved.
- Second, training should be enhanced.
- Third, Duty to Intervene should be mandated.
- Fourth, transparency must improve.
- Fifth, absolute immunity should be removed, and investigations into instances of wrongdoing by federal agents should be pursued.

There are other proposals and decisions of note that are aiming to address actions by ICE:

- requiring agents to provide first aid
- [prohibiting](#) provisional hiring without a complete background check
- Restrictions on ICE's use of [retaliation](#) against peaceful protesters

This bill is a reaction to what has been happening with ICE's conduct.

It does this by establishing that a federal law enforcement officer's powers granted under a certain provision of law may be exercised only when the federal law enforcement officer is acting in accordance with State law; prohibiting a law enforcement officer or a law enforcement agency from engaging in racial profiling; prohibiting a law enforcement agency from taking retaliatory punitive action against a law enforcement officer who discloses information concerning racial profiling; etc.

Until ICE stops these flagrant violations of constitutional protections and illegal profiling of residents Maryland must make those protections real in Maryland.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB1262.

¹ <https://www.brookings.edu/articles/ice-expansion-has-outpaced-accountability-what-are-the-remedies/#:~:text=In%20addition%20to%20questionable%20hiring,a%2040%2Dhour%20online%20course.>