

Hello. My name is Lisa Siano. I live in Columbia MD.

I am writing to urge a favorable report on HB 1415. This legislation requires the Maryland Police Training and Standard Commission to develop a model policy that directs law enforcement officers that operate in Maryland to wear clear identification while on duty (including badge number, name, and department affiliation). The bill would also require law enforcement agencies create standards to establish when officers must display identification in the performance of their duties.

People in Maryland need to have trust in their law enforcement officers. Masking and failing to display identification create an environment of distrust. People don't know if they are dealing with a law enforcement officer or a criminal. People will be hesitant to come forward to report crimes if they don't know who they are dealing with.

For these reasons, I urge a favorable report on HB 1415