

**Favorable Written Testimony for HB 1415 –  
Public Safety – Law Enforcement Officers - Lorette Vetusi – 3/6/26**

Dear Members of the Maryland House Judiciary Committee,

My name is Lorette Vetusi, and I am writing to provide favorable testimony in support of **HB 1415**. I strongly support the passage of this bill, which requires the Maryland Police Training and Standards Commission to develop a policy for all law enforcement officers to wear identification while on duty. I like that this law would standardize the requirement for wearing ID badges across law enforcement agencies, including local, state and federal agencies. I would like to see this law passed in conjunction with HB 155, which requires all law enforcement officers to perform their duties while unmasked. Both these laws would increase transparency in policing, particularly for federal immigration enforcement officers, and should have a positive impact on the interactions between law enforcement officers and the general public.

In addition, HB 1415 would help increase accountability for federal immigration enforcement officers. This is especially important given what we have seen and heard from many witnesses who have been reporting that ICE agents have been violating the law and the Constitution when on the job in other states. We need to proactively protect Marylanders from incurring potential physical violence (and death!) when encountering CBP/ICE agents in our state. Moreover, if federal law enforcement officers are mandated to wear ID badges, then Marylanders who are approached by one or more of them will not have to worry about being kidnapped or harmed by criminals posing as immigration officers. And if agents decide to take people into custody, it should be easier to find out where these people are being detained if we have the officers' identifying information.

Federal immigration enforcement officers should not be allowed to act with impunity and immunity, as if they are part of a secret police force. I believe that HB 1415 would help Marylanders feel safer and less at odds with law enforcement agents at all levels of government.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

Lorette Vetusi

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**Option 2: HB 1415 (Public Safety - Law Enforcement Officers)**