



February 27, 2026

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: David H. Murray
Council Administrator

Colette R. Gresham, Esq.
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Lavinia Baxter 
Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

FROM: Malcolm Moody - *MM*
Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement
CB-008-2026 Prohibition on Facial Coverings (Emergency Act)

CB-008-2026 (*Proposed by Council Chair Oriadha and Councilmember Olson*)

Assigned to the Committee of the Whole

AN EMERGENCY ACT CONCERNING PROHIBITION ON FACIAL COVERINGS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT for the purpose of prohibiting certain law enforcement officers from wearing face coverings that conceal or obscure the face while interacting with the public in the performance of official duties in Prince George's County; providing definitions and exceptions; providing penalties and enforcement; stating that a public emergency exists and declaring the nature of that emergency; and generally relating to transparency and public trust in law enforcement.

Fiscal Summary

Direct Impact:

Expenditures: None anticipated.

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Revenues: None.

Indirect Impact:

Prevent law enforcement from concealing identities unless in specific circumstances.

Legislative Summary:

CB-008-2026¹, proposed by Council Chair Oriadha and Councilmembers Fisher and Olson, was introduced on February 17, 2026, and referred to the Committee of the Whole. CB-008-2026 would require that law enforcement officers be easily identifiable when performing their duties. A sworn member of a law enforcement agency would be prohibited from wearing a face covering during the performance of official duties and when interacting with the public.

Current Law/Background:

Using legislation to prevent the use of masks by law enforcement has become a growing movement across the Country. SB-627² (No Secret Police Act) enacted in California prohibits facial coverings for law enforcement officers (local, state, and federal agents) that conceal or obscure their identity. In New York, Senate Bill S8462³ would prohibit law enforcement officers from wearing any mask or personal disguise while interacting with the public in the performance of their duties. The proposed legislation will focus on ensuring that law enforcement engaged in immigration enforcement efforts do not conceal their identities.

Resource Personnel:

- Ramon Gonzalez, Legislative Attorney
 - Tre'von Sawyers, Chief of Staff, Council District 7
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Discussion/Policy Analysis:

CB-008-2026 aims to prevent law enforcement from concealing their identities when interacting

¹ [CB-008-2026 - Prince George's County Council](#)

² [Senate Bill No. 627 \(California\)](#)

³ [Senate Bill S8462 \(NY State Senate\)](#)

with the public and during official duties, with certain exceptions⁴. The provisions of the legislation would require that:

- Law enforcement officers (federal, state, or local) are prohibited from wearing face coverings while interacting with the public in an official capacity.
- A law enforcement officer in violation of the provisions of this proposed legislation would be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, subject to imprisonment not to exceed six (6) months and up to a five thousand (\$5,000) dollar fine.

In Maryland, a similar bill, SB-0001⁵ would prohibit a law enforcement officer from wearing a face covering while in the performance of duty in the State⁶. Under SB-0001, the penalty for violating the provision will be guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for up to two years and/or a maximum fine of \$2,000. In addition, a violator waives all immunity in a civil action based on the violation. Further, a violation constitutes police misconduct for purposes of the police accountability and discipline process established under Title 3, Subtitle 1 of the Public Safety Article⁷.

Fiscal Impact

Direct Impact

None.

Indirect Impact

The adoption of CB-008-2026 will have the indirect impact of allowing residents a way to identify law enforcement in the County.

Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget

No.

Effective Date of the Proposed Legislation

This proposed resolution shall take effect on the date of adoption.

⁴ During undercover operations, tactical operation, medical protection, using fire or smoke gear, protection against biological or chemical agents, during water rescue, and vehicle helmets.

⁵ [Maryland General Assembly - SB0001](#)

⁶ Does not apply to undercover operations.

⁷ Maryland Code - [Subtitle 1—Police Accountability and Discipline](#)

If you require additional information or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please email or call me.