



March 4, 2024

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

The Honorable Jeff Waldstreicher  
Vice Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East, Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair and Vice Chair,

I write to express my full support for *Senate Bill 1096 - Vehicle Laws - Licenses, Identification Cards, and Moped Operator's Permits - Identification of Nonapparent Disability (Eric's ID Law)*, a piece of legislation inspired by 19-year old Eric Blessed Carpenter-Grantham.

Mr. Carpenter-Grantham is an adult Marylander with autism who has created special logos to be placed onto identification for people with invisible disabilities - disabilities like autism, mental health conditions, deafness or hearing loss, and more.

During intense and fast moving emergency situations, or even in an everyday setting, people with invisible disabilities may have difficulty communicating with law enforcement, first responders, or other community members when they need assistance. This proposed legislation would allow Marylanders with invisible disabilities to voluntarily elect to have a marker put on their driver's license or identification card so public safety officials can be more informed when working to ensure everyone's safety.

In speaking with Mr. Carpenter-Grantham and his mother, Linda Carpenter-Grantham, I know this legislation will positively impact many people across the state. I strongly support *Senate Bill 1096 - Vehicle Laws - Licenses, Identification Cards, and Moped Operator's Permits - Identification of Nonapparent Disability (Eric's ID Law)* and hope to see this bill become law during the 2024 Maryland General Assembly session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'David Trone'.

David Trone

Member of Congress