

COUNCILMEMBER LAURIE-ANNE SAYLES

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

AT LARGE

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

March 5, 2024

TO: Senator Will Smith

Chair, Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Laurie-Anne Sayles

Montgomery Council Councilmember At-Large

RE: Vehicle Laws - Licenses, Identification Cards, and Moped Operator's Permits

Identification of Nonapparent Disability

I am writing to support <u>SB1096</u>, *Vehicle Laws - Licenses*, *Identification Cards*, *and Moped Operator's Permits Identification of Nonapparent Disability*. This legislation would allow individuals with disabilities to voluntarily disclose their disability (such as hearing impairment or autism) with an icon on their Maryland driver's license or identification card to inform first responders and police officers of their condition. It would help raise awareness and ensure first responders are prepared to interact with Marylanders with "invisible disabilities.".

I commend Eric Carpenter-Grantham and his mother, Linda Carpenter-Grantham, for their exemplary advocacy for "Eric's ID Law". Eric and Linda brought this critical issue to the attention of elected officials and media outlets across the state. They have fought tirelessly to introduce this legislation and advocate for its passage. I implore the Judicial Proceedings Committee to support this legislation to ensure that all Marylanders, regardless of their disability status, feel safe and adequately cared for by their communities and first responders.

In conclusion, I strongly support SB1096, or "Eric's ID Law," and urge the Judicial Proceedings Committee to give this legislation a favorable vote.

Sincerely,

Laurie-Anne Sayles, Montgomery County Councilmember At-Large