

Subject: Favorable with amendments HB337 Bike Lanes and Bike Shoulders – Yielding Right-Of-Way (Sarah Debbink Langenkamp Memorial Act)

Date: February 22, 2024

To: House Environment and Transportation Committee

From: Members of the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland

Ronza Othman, President

National Federation of the Blind of Maryland

15 Charles Plaza, #3002, Baltimore, MD 21201

Phone: 443-426-4110

Email: [President@nfbmd.org](mailto:President@nfbmd.org)

Amendment One: On page two, after line 17, add “Drivers must also yield the right-of-way to vehicles that are trying to load or unload persons with disabilities.”

Amendment Two: On page two, after line 19, add “or harm a person with a disability who is trying to find and enter a vehicle or exit a vehicle in a bike lane or shoulder.”

Reasons for the Amendments: Blind people and others with disabilities have great difficulty when trying to enter or exit a vehicle that is in a bike lane or shoulder. HB337 is a good bill because it provides protection for individuals riding a bicycle, EPAMD, or motor scooter. It can be a better bill if it is amended as suggested by the National Federation of the Blind. Blind people who are trying to find and enter a vehicle or exit a vehicle need protection just as much as the riders of a bicycle or other devices.

Please vote in favor of the amended HB337.