

Chair Delegate Barnes, Vice Chair Delegate Chang, Members of the Appropriations Committee:

We are Jewish on Campus, a student-powered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization combating campus antisemitism nationwide. For nearly five years, we've served as the leading voice for Gen-Z Jews in the United States, advocating for Jewish students on all levels, from the campus quad to Capitol Hill.

Jewish on Campus strongly urges you to support HB 86: Title VI Coordinators at Maryland Universities.

A recent survey from the Anti-Defamation League, Hillel International, and College Pulse found that 83% of Jewish college students have experienced or witnessed antisemitism on campus since October 7th, 2023. While Jewish students have reported rising incidents of antisemitism on campus, they lack a straightforward and efficient process to access support from university administrations.

HB 86 requires all Maryland colleges and universities to designate a Title VI coordinator, ensuring compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which prohibits race, color, and national origin discrimination in federally funded programs.

Since 2020, Jewish on Campus has filed four Title VI complaints with the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. Representing Jewish students across the country, we recognize the urgent need to ensure consistent enforcement of federal protections under Title VI nationwide.

HB 86 provides a clear contact for Maryland students experiencing national origin discrimination, including antisemitism. If passed, Maryland would become a leading state to ensure university administrations are held accountable for providing a safe and inclusive environment for all students on campus.

Thank you, Delegate Vogel, for being a powerful voice for students in Maryland, and thank you for your consideration of the views of Jewish on Campus.

Sincerely,
Julia Jassey, CEO

