

Subject: Favorable SB435: Title VI Coordinators

Date: March 5, 2025

From: National Federation of the Blind of Maryland

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To: Education Energy and the Environment Committee

The Members of the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland urge the members of the Education Energy and the Environment Committee to give SB435 a favorable report because it establishes clear lines of responsibilities for civil rights complaints.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was a monumental step toward equality. Blind persons and other people with disabilities are entitled to an equal education. Equitable education means having the same opportunities that their nondisabled peers have. Having a definite person responsible in every local school system and higher education institution will make it easier for the students and faculty to know where to go when they have complaints.

Please vote Yes on SB435.