Favorable SB757/HB1007: Genetic Testing Prohibition on Disability, Life, and Long-Term Care

Insurance (Genetic Testing Protection Act)

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From: National Federation of the Blind of Maryland

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To: Finance Committee

The members of the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland urge the Senate Finance Committee to definitely vote in favor of Sb757/HB1007. This bill prohibits discrimination in genetic testing and services by life insurance, long term care insurance and disability insurance.

There are some causes of blindness that have a genetic component such as Retinitis Pigmentosa and Leber Congenital Amaurosis. Prohibiting discrimination by insurance is the right thing to do. Insurance companies can either deny coverage altogether or force the customer to pay a higher price. Using genetic testing in this way is both unfair and unjust.

Please vote yes on SB757 and HB1007. Since genetic testing is becoming more prominent it is necessary for this bill to become law.