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Ways and Means Committee

Subcommittees

Education

Revenues



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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HB 109: Institutions of Higher Education and Elementary and Secondary Schools - Title VI Coordinators

Appropriations Committee

Tuesday, February 10th - 1:00 PM

Chairman Barnes, Vice Chairman Chang, and Members of the Appropriations Committee,

HB 109 strengthens Maryland's compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by requiring public institutions of higher education to designate a Title VI Coordinator. This role is essential to ensuring that discrimination based on race, color, or national origin is effectively prevented, identified, and addressed in programs receiving federal funding.

A Title VI Coordinator would be responsible for overseeing institutional compliance; providing training and guidance to students, faculty, and staff; investigating and documenting complaints; and maintaining records and reports as required by federal law. This work is not only critical to responding to violations when they occur, but to proactively protecting students that have been historically and systemically marginalized within higher education.

While many institutions have staff who perform related functions, the presence, authority, and scope of a Title VI Coordinator is inconsistent across the state. HB 109 establishes a clear, uniform standard so that every student enrolled in a Maryland public institution has equal access to a defined, accountable process for reporting and addressing discrimination.

By clarifying responsibility and strengthening oversight, HB 109 promotes safer, more equitable learning environments and helps institutions meet their legal and ethical obligations.

I urge the committee to give a favorable report on HB 0109.