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**BILL:** SB 0535: County Boards of Library Trustees – Membership – Student Member      **DATE:** March 4, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Adding student representation to public library Boards of Trustees      **COMMITTEE:** Senate Education, Energy and the Environment Committee

**TESTIMONY FROM:** Carrie Willson, Executive Director, Calvert Library      **POSITION:** Support

Dear Chair Feldman, Vice Chair Kagan and members of the Committee,

I am writing in support of **SB 0535: County Boards of Library Trustees – Membership – Student Member**.

This legislation gives the Boards of Library Trustees statutory authority to add a student member to their ranks. It also gives those Boards the ability to decide what level of voting rights their student colleague will have, if any, beyond voting on policy.

The ability to add a student member to our board will provide additional leadership development to young people in our communities and insight into the next generation of library governors for our existing board members. The student members of Calvert County Public School’s Board have been exceptionally thoughtful teens. I look forward to having a student board member and to the important perspectives they will bring to the table.

I ask for a **favorable report on SB 535** and thank you for your support for our state’s young leaders.

Sincerely,

Carrie Willson,  
Executive Director, Calvert Library

