

HB0058\_RichardKaplowitz\_FAV

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Richard Keith Kaplowitz  
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**TESTIMONY ON HB#0058 – FAVORABLE**

**Transportation - Paratransit Services - Interjurisdictional Routes**

**TO:** Chair Korman, Vice Chair Guyton and members of the Environment and Transportation Committee

**FROM:** Richard Keith Kaplowitz

**My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#0058, Transportation - Paratransit Services - Interjurisdictional Routes**

When querying AI asking the question “need for interjurisdictional transit in Maryland” the response to the question explains why this bill has been drafted and submitted.

The need for interjurisdictional transit in Maryland is driven by rapid population growth, the necessity to connect major employment hubs across county lines, and the demand for specialized paratransit services for vulnerable populations. Key focus areas include improving regional connections in Central Maryland, addressing long commutes (ranking second in the US), and integrating transit with land-use planning to reduce congestion.

This bill will achieve the goal of meeting this need by requiring a county that submits an application to the Secretary of Transportation for funding for certain transportation services for elderly and disabled persons to identify interjurisdictional paratransit service routes between facilities within certain networks of providers in the application; requiring the Secretary to adopt procedures to ensure counties cooperate in establishing interjurisdictional paratransit service routes between facilities within certain networks of providers; etc.

For elderly and disabled individuals this can also facilitate use of medical resources outside their specific jurisdiction expanding their opportunities to access specific care networks. Transportation will no longer handicap the use of appropriate medical providers for their needs.

**I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report and pass HB0058.**