



*Live the life you want.*

From: Ronza Othman, President  
National Federation of the Blind of Maryland  
15 Charles Plaza, #3002  
Baltimore, MD 21201 [president@nfbmd.org](mailto:president@nfbmd.org)

To: House Environment & Transportation Committee

The members of the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland urge the House Environment & Transportation Committee to give a favorable report to HB0058. will improve paratransit services by having them adequately cover interjurisdictional routes. Paratransit services throughout the state have many problems. Having interjurisdictional routes such as Adventist Healthcare, Johns Hopkins Medicine, LifeBridge Health, Luminis Health Maryland, MedStar Health, and University of Maryland Medical System will improve the lives of elderly and disabled people because they will be able to get to their medical appointments and/or procedures.

HB58 outlines definite procedures for counties to take in establishing and providing interjurisdictional routes. The bill also gives specific responsibility to the secretary of transportation to ensure that the counties cooperate in the operations of interjurisdictional routes. The MDOT Annual Attainment Reports estimate that there are over 3 million paratransit trips annually, which is a substantial number of rides. Society cannot allow governments to operate paratransit systems in a poor or confusing manner.

For those reasons, we ask for a favorable report on HB0058. For questions, please contact me at [President@nfbmd.org](mailto:President@nfbmd.org) or at 443-426-4110.