1.5.1: 1.5.1 Accessible Version of Annotation Example on 1.5

Accessible version of the annotation example on 1.5

**Bold** indicates parts the reader has marked to comment on; [words in brackets] shows the notes the reader has made.

A Win for Undocumented Immigrants is a **Win for All** [Will look for exactly how the new law helps everyone and mark with *]

Guest Column by Tram Nguyen, *Virginia Mercury*, March 27, 2020

Every person in Virginia deserves to live in their community free from fear.

The exclusion of undocumented Virginians from being able to drive has been a crippling barrier to that principle. **But the state legislature has now passed a bill that will allow driving for many immigrant residents** [the law changed] through **driver privilege cards** [How are these different from a driver's license?] this session. At New Virginia Majority we have organized and advocated for this basic right, and now **previously undocumented** [What does "previously undocumented" mean? Does the driver's license count as a document?] families and communities will legally be able to drive in the state of Virginia.

Having the right to drive can be a **matter of life and death** [importance] under everyday circumstances: a sick child that needs immediate medical attention, or a woman getting ready to bring a new life into the world. Most of us take this access for granted. This is a crucial advancement – for those that have waited patiently just to be able to drive themselves to work, take their children to doctor’s appointments, or attend local events, this a chance to become fully active members of their community.

**Ovidia Castillo Rosa** [important person in the article], a member of New Virginia Majority’s Loudoun County chapter
described it best:” Not having a driver’s license is like not having feet. **Being able to drive would be like having wings.** [great simile] When I have a driver’s license, there are so many things that I’ll have the freedom to do, including starting my own business.”

**Cecilia Cruz** [important person in the article], a member of the New Virginia Majority, has been involved in the fight for the right to drive, and has called her representatives, and encouraged her friends and neighbors to march in support. “**The streets will be more safe and more money will stay in the state,**” [*how the new law helps everyone*], she said. “Families will be able to leave their children and go to work in safety, without fear.”

Providing this credential will give thousands of Virginians the ability to legally drive and is a huge victory. **But** [Maybe this signals a concession?] , **we recognize driver privilege cards are not the same as driver’s licenses,** [Yes, it is a concession.] and there is much more to be done. Our communities, in an era of open and growing institutional racism and xenophobia, understand that having a driver’s privilege card has the potential to make them vulnerable, as it will **make them immediately identifiable as an undocumented person** [Privilege cards are not enough. I wonder how many eligible people will not get one for fear of being identifiable.] and creates a segment of immigrant drivers.

Our organizers, advocates, and chapter members will continue to fight for a society that treats people equally and with dignity no matter what their status, language, zip code, gender, race, or ethnicity is, and we will work to strengthen **privacy** [What does privacy mean in this context? Why did Nguyen emphasize this here?] protections for all Virginians, regardless of immigration status.

When the presidential election comes to a close in the fall, we pledge to stand by immigrant communities and keep them informed of both the opportunities and threats presented by this law, regardless of who holds the office.

We believe in a Virginia that is welcoming and provides an opportunity for all its residents to succeed and live happy and healthy lives. The outcome of this legislative session was a step in the right direction and toward a more inclusive Virginia. **But** [Looks like turning back from this other concession] until all of our communities are granted the full protections and access to driver’s licenses, **the fight continues.** [Still fighting]