

Amity Pope

Bill Number: 1201

Hearing Date: March 10, 2020

Bill Title: State Government
Operations

Committee: House and Government

Maryland Reparations

Commission-Establishment "Harriet
Tubman Community Investment Act"

Contact: Del. Wanika Fisher

Position: SUPPORT

Dear Committee Chair Shane E. Pendergrass, Committee Vice-Chair Joseline Pena-Melnyk, and Committee Members:

I strongly support HB 1201 for the following reasons:

Currently, descendants of the African-American slave trade are members of this society that are thought of as subhuman to many. From bombings of churches, lynching of black men, women and children, to men being shot in black and brown communities daily with the world seemingly to continue, without missing a beat. If happenings such as this occurred in neighbors that were not predominantly black and brown, perhaps they would make the national news.

The conversation for economic disparities and the actualization of Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow* is well overdue. It is time for the acknowledgement regarding the root causes of the inequities manifested by economic and health disparities; as well as a criminal justice system that capitalizes on bringing to fruition that black people are subhuman to the majority race.

Policies forwarding white supremacists ideology have continued for way to long. There is a deep cancer and injustice that needs to be addressed.

For those reasons, I support HB 1201. Please send a report from Committee that is Favorable.

Thank you.

Amity Pope
Constituent District 47A
Chapel Oaks Community Organizer