



THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

February 17, 2023

**Supporting Testimony for HB 460 -Department of Housing and Community Development- Racial
Equity Impact Assessment**

Environment and Transportation Committee

Good Afternoon Chair Barve and Members of the Environment and Transportation Committee.

For the record, I am Delegate Kym Taylor, representing Prince George's County District 23.

I am excited to present HB460 – Racial Equity Impact Assessment. This bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development conduct an annual racial equity impact assessment. The first assessment is due by December 31, 2024 and annually thereafter. The assessment must evaluate two things:

1. The impact of the financial assistance administered by DHCD on racial minorities, and
2. Whether the financial assistance administered by DHCD is equitably invested in communities with the largest need and those with the largest populations of economically marginalized people.

Some of the financial assistance programs administered by DHCD are:

1. The Emergency Rental Assistance Program
2. The Homeowner Assistance Fund
3. The Homelessness Solutions Program
4. The Home Repairs and Energy Assistance Improvement

In creating a Racial Equity Impact Assessment, DHCD must engage with independent experts to create a rigorous assessment rubric that takes into account prevailing evidence on the efficacy of indicators in generating a fair, unbiased and balanced assessment of the impact of financial assistance on racial minorities.

DHCD must also make the results of the assessment available to the public.

I am respectfully seeking a favorable vote on this important bill.

Del Kym Taylor