



February 21, 2023

Delegate Kumar P. Barve, Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Chairman Barve and Members of the Committee:

The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland Inc. has voted to offer **favorable** support for House Bill 460—Department of Housing and Community Development - Racial Equity Impact Assessment.

This bill will require the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to complete a yearly report that spotlights racial equity impact. This assessment must be completed in collaboration with independent experts, and be readily available to the public. Within the report, the assessment will look into the departmental disbursement of financial assistance and determine if said assistance has been equitably distributed to those in greatest need.

The yearly completion of an Annual Racial Equity Impact Assessment by DHCD is critical to evaluating gaps in equity and implementing impactful change in Maryland. For these reasons, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland supports House Bill 460.

Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland