



**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK,  
MARYLAND**

**SB 335  
Support**

**Judicial Proceedings Committee**

**February 16, 2023**

**SB 335: Real Property - Unlawfully Restrictive Covenants -  
Modification by Municipalities  
City Council of the City of Takoma Park**

The City of Takoma Park supports Senate Bill 335, and urges favorable consideration.

Federal law states that it is unlawful to refuse to sell or lease real property to a person because of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, familial status, or disability or to include in any instrument a restrictive covenant based on such characteristics. Many deeds continue to contain unlawful restrictive language, and despite it being unenforceable, there is a desire to eliminate this language to the extent possible.

The City of Takoma Park supports this legislation to give the City the ability to review deeds on file, and with the required notice, execute and record a restrictive covenant modification. This activity is consistent with the City's efforts to address racial inequities and makes an affirmative statement to the community that local government can be proactive in being anti-racist.

**We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 335.**