



LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC.

The Maryland House of Delegates, 6 Bladen Street, Room 300, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
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March 10, 2026

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Chair Ben Barnes
Appropriations Committee
120 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Dear Chair Barnes and Members of the Committee,

The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland offers its strong and favorable support for House Bill 900- Legislative Scholarship Programs- ELigibility and Use - Real Estate Appraisal Program. This bill allows certain applicants to qualify for legislative scholarships and allows those scholarships to be used for a specific real estate appraiser training program. **This bill is a 2026 legislative priority for the Black Caucus.**

The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland believes that HB 900 will allow recipients of senatorial and delegate scholarships to use their awards toward appraisal licensure course requirements, whether they are seeking a degree or not. HB 900 strengthens Maryland workforce development initiatives, expands access to career-focused education, and promotes equity within the real estate industry.

Additionally, as economic shifts occur and the housing market becomes more challenging, the demand for real estate appraisals continues to grow. This helps ensure that homeowners are protected, contributes to a stable housing market, and ensures fair property valuations. House Bill 900 provides a closer step toward economic mobility and housing equity.

For these reasons, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland strongly supports House Bill 900.

Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland