

GLENN IVEY  
4TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-2004

January 30, 2026

Senator William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chair  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21041

Senator Jeff Waldstreicher  
Vice Chair  
Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21041

Re: Letter of Support for MD SB0274 - Fair Housing and Housing Discrimination - Regulations, Intent, and Discriminatory Effect

Dear Chairman Smith and Vice Chairman Waldstreicher:

I write to express my support for MD SB0274, Fair Housing and Housing Discrimination - Regulations, Intent, and Discriminatory Effect. This legislation will help to prevent discriminatory and unlawful housing practices in the State of Maryland.

On January 14, 2026, the Trump administration issued a proposed rule, "HUD's Implementation of the Fair Housing Act's Disparate Impact Standard." This rule is similar to a final rule of the same name issued during the first Trump administration on September 24, 2020, which was overturned by the Biden administration on March 17, 2023, through the publication of a Final Rule titled, "Restoring HUD's Discriminatory Effects Standard."

Discrimination based on race, gender, national origin, or ethnicity is inconsistent with the Constitution and fundamental American principles of equal protection under the law. Codifying SB0274 is an important step to preserve a workable discriminatory effects standard and promote a housing market free from intentional discrimination and discriminatory effects alike.

Securing stable, affordable, and non-discriminatory housing is a critical step in reducing poverty and achieving socioeconomic equity. I urge the Maryland State Senate to report SB0274 favorably out of the Judicial Proceedings Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Ivey", written over a white background.

Glenn F. Ivey  
Member of Congress