

SENATE BILL 476

P1

6lr3258
CF 6lr3252

By: **Senator Muse**

Introduced and read first time: February 2, 2026

Assigned to: Education, Energy, and the Environment

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Government – Maryland Reparations Commission – Revisions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the membership, duties, and reporting requirements for the
4 Maryland Reparations Commission; and generally relating to the Maryland
5 Reparations Commission.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
7 Chapter 9 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the 2025 Special Session
8 Section 1(b)

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Chapter 9 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the 2025 Special Session
11 Section 1(c)(7), (12), and (13) and (g)(1) and 2

12 BY adding to
13 Chapter 9 of the Acts of the General Assembly of the 2025 Special Session
14 Section 1(c)(13) through (15) and (17)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
16 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Chapter 9 of the Acts of the 2025 Special Session**

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
19 That:

20 (b) There is a Maryland Reparations Commission.

21 (c) The Commission consists of:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(7) one member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, [designated by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People Maryland State Conference President] **APPOINTED JOINTLY BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;**

(12) a representative of the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission, designated by the Chair of the Commission; [and]

(13) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE MARYLAND COMMISSION FOR AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE, DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION;

(14) ONE FAITH LEADER APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE;

(15) ONE FAITH LEADER APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE;

[(13)] (16) the following members appointed by the Governor:

(i) a mental health expert;

(ii) two historians, with expertise in researching the impacts of enslavement and housing segregation;

(iii) a representative of a religious institution that serves a community with a high minority population;

(iv) an attorney with expertise in civil rights law or constitutional law; **AND**

(v) a representative of an African American financial institution; and

[(vi) two members of the general public]

(17) FOUR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC, TWO APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND TWO APPOINTED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE.

(g) (1) The Commission shall:

(I) HOLD AT LEAST THREE PUBLIC HEARINGS AND CONTINUOUSLY SOLICIT PUBLIC INPUT;

1 [(i)] (II) study and make recommendations relating to appropriate
2 benefits to be offered to individuals impacted by historical inequality;

3 [(ii)] (III) on or before [January 1, 2027] **SEPTEMBER 1, 2028**,
4 submit a preliminary report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in
5 accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly; and

6 [(iii)] (IV) on or before [November 1, 2027] **DECEMBER 1, 2028**,
7 submit a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in
8 accordance with § 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
10 1, 2025. It shall remain effective for a period of [3] 4 years and, at the end of June 30,
11 [2028] **2029**, this Act, with no further action required by the General Assembly, shall be
12 abrogated and of no further force and effect.

13 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
14 1, 2026.