

Bill Number: HB1406

Date: 03/04/2020

Position: Favorable

Maryland has the opportunity to address a growing problem common to growing cities around the United States, housing production is failing to meet housing demand. A major cause of this issue is zoning laws which restrict the type and number of homes that can be built on a parcel of land. The lack of housing supply causes prices to climb which prevents workers from accessing new job opportunities and employers from accessing the talent they need to expand.

Economists have estimated that a lack of housing supply in high opportunity areas has reduced overall economic growth by ~50% from 1964 to 2009 (<https://www.nber.org/papers/w21154>).

Vaughn Stewart's modest home choice act of 2020 seeks to address this problem by relaxing zoning laws in certain qualifying zip codes. Please consider supporting this legislation for the sake of housing affordability and Maryland's overall economic health!

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