

Dear Members of the House Appropriations Committee,

This testimony is being submitted by Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore, a group of individuals working to move white folks as part of a multi-racial movement for equity and racial justice in Baltimore City and Baltimore County. I am a resident of MD District 43. I am a graduate of a historically white university which enjoyed robust funding. I am testifying in **support of Senate Bill 1**.



Senate Bill 1 bill ensures Historically Black Colleges and Universities are properly funded and that unnecessary duplication of programs does not occur in the MD school system that unfairly biases against HBCUs.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities have played a vital role in providing education to millions of people across the country, especially those who were historically excluded from traditional secondary education opportunities and for whom most models of secondary education were not designed. It comes as no surprise that these institutions, built to provide alternative means of education for those who are discriminated against, have suffered institutional discrimination. Specifically, such discrimination is detailed in the opinion of the United States District Court of Maryland in THE COALITION FOR EQUITY AND EXCELLENCE IN MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION, ET AL. V. MARYLAND HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION, ET AL., 06-CV-02773-CCB.

This gives Maryland a moral imperative to ensure that Maryland's HBCUs, Morgan State, Bowie State, Coppin University, and University of Maryland Eastern Shore, are provided reparations for the institutionally racist wrongs done to them. Moreover, the prospering of these universities and additional funding to them will only provide ten-fold their costs in the advancement of the disproportionately black, indigenous, and people of color student bodies that attend them. Our entire society will benefit from their students' human capital. Such funding will move the world forward on a path towards equity.

We have our legal mandate and moral imperative. Now all we need is our legislative courage to make this happen. I strongly encourage you to vote in **support of Senate Bill 1**.

Thank you for your time, service, and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Jan Kleinman**

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Showing Up for Racial Justice Baltimore