



TESTIMONY FOR HB0928

Discrimination in Housing - Citizenship, Immigration Status, and National Origin

Bill Sponsor: Delegate Palakovich-Carr

Committee: Environment and Transportation

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of HB0928 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state with well over 30,000 members.

Our members find it frustrating that immigrants, who risk everything to come to this country, and have made our country strong and prosperous, are discriminated against, time and again.

This bill will include citizenship, immigration status and national origin to the list of things that cannot be used to deny a person a housing contract or a rental contract or limit the terms or conditions of a sale or rental. Additionally, sellers or rental agencies are precluded from asking about citizenship, immigration status or natural origin, or threatening to disclose it to federal authorities.

We believe that buying a home or renting an apartment should be about the willingness to pay, rather than the color of your skin, or your accent, or any other characteristic.

We support this bill and recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in committee.