



# THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700  
County Council

## POSITION STATEMENT

**HB 1097** Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation  
Delegate Holmes, et. Al. Equity

### POSITION:

### SUPPORT

**HB 1097** – Task Force on Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity – Establishing the Task Force to Study Property Appraisal and Valuation Equity to study the misvaluation and undervaluation of property owned by minorities; and requiring the Task Force to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by October 31, 2023.

HB 1097 will establish a task force that will address the persistent misvaluation and undervaluation of property owned by minorities. They will study strategies and actions that will help ensure that governmental oversight and industry standards and practices further valuation equity, increase training of appraisers to combat valuation bias, remove barriers to entry into the appraisal profession by minorities, assist in the development of a model for a meaningful reconsideration of value process, and reduce or eliminate bias related to automated valuation models and alternative property valuation methods.

The Prince George's County Council supports this legislation and believes it is very much overdue. Minority homeowners face persistent discrimination when it comes to home appraisals. In 2018, the Brookings Institution published a report where they found that owner-occupied homes in Black neighborhoods are undervalued by \$48,000 per home on average, amounting to \$156 billion in cumulative losses. The Council appreciates that the bill appoints eight representatives from Prince George's County to the task force. We ask that as the leadership is considering who to appoint to the task force that they consider adding a historian who has a comprehensive understanding of this issue, particularly as it relates to Prince George's County.

For the foregoing reasons, the Prince George's County Council **SUPPORTS HB 1097** and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of its position.

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Prepared by: Evans & Associates  
On behalf of Prince George's County Council