

March 3, 2023

The Honorable Kumar P. Barve
Environment & Transportation Committee
House Office Building, Room 251,
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD, 21401

RE: Letter of Opposition HB1121 Real Property – Residential Contracts of Sale – Buyer Privacy.

Dear Chairman Barve:

The Maryland Building Industry Association, representing 100,000 employees statewide, appreciates the opportunity to participate in the discussion surrounding **HB1121 Real Property – Residential Contracts of Sale – Buyer Privacy**. MBIA **opposes** the Act in its current version.

This bill intends to eliminate bias, intentional or otherwise, in housing decisions concerning the sale of single-family residential real property to an individual buyer by removing the name of the buyer from contract of sale prior to acceptance of the contract by the seller. MBIA respectfully opposes this measure. While we appreciate the intent of the bill is to prevent discrimination, we believe that this will have the opposite effect. In cases that there are multiple offers on a property, a buyer is more likely to select a buyer that can be identified. We support legislation that prevents discrimination but have serious concerns about this method.

For these reasons, MBIA respectfully requests the Committee give this measure an **unfavorable** report. Thank you for your consideration.

For more information about this position, please contact Lori Graf at 410-800-7327 or lgraf@marylandbuilders.org.

cc: Members of the House Environment & Transportation Committee