



# Randallstown

**P.O. Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133**

## **The Randallstown NAACP supports HB 0875-Maryland Reparations Commission - Establishment.**

**Feb 25, 2023**  
**Immediate Release**

**Contact: Ryan Coleman, President**  
[randallstownnaacp@gmail.com](mailto:randallstownnaacp@gmail.com)

Randallstown, MD - President Ryan Coleman released the following statement in response to HB 0875.

“Reparations programs acknowledge and address harms caused by human rights violations such as slavery, segregation, or systematic denial of fair housing, education, and employment opportunities. The federal and state governments have primary responsibility to repair damages caused by human rights violations that were legally sanctioned, enabled, and permitted; although institutions, individuals, and other entities can participate in reparation efforts.

Discussions about atonement for the enslavement of Black Americans have a long history in the United States, and efforts toward reparations for slavery and racial discrimination have moved forward in some places in recent years. In 2021, Evanston, Illinois, became the first U.S. city to create a reparations plan for its Black residents, and California that year set up the nation’s first state-level reparations task force. Earlier this year, Harvard University created a \$100 million ‘Legacy of Slavery’ fund to allow scholars and students to examine the university’s connections to slavery.

Given the lingering legacy of slavery on the racial wealth gap, the monetary value we know that was placed on enslaved Blacks, the fact that other groups have received reparations, and the fact that Blacks were originally awarded reparations only to have them rescinded provide overwhelming evidence that it is time to pay reparations to the descendants of enslaved Blacks.

HB 0875 starts the State of Maryland down the path of atonement. I wanted to thank Delegate McCaskill for having the courage to present this bill and the other co sponsors Delegates Ruth, White, Phillips, Addison, Charkoudian, Crutchfield Kaiser & Lopez. Now we need to ensure it is passed out of the Health and Government Committee on March 1st and passes the Maryland House of Delegates. The more daunting task is finding a sponsor in the upper house of the General Assembly- the Maryland Senate. I am hopeful that we can find a senator who will cross file this bill on an emergency basis. Let's make this a more perfect union.”