

P.O. Box 731 Randallstown, MD 21133

February 19, 2023

Health and Government Operations Committee Room 241 House Office Building Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: SUPPORT HB 0339-Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission-Repoprting and Sunset Extension Dear Chair Clippinger:

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk:

May it be known the mission of the Randallstown NAACP is to secure equal rights in order to eliminate race-based discrimination and ensure the health and well-being of all persons in Baltimore County and the State of Maryland.

The Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission is authorized to research cases of racially motivated lynchings and hold public meetings and regional hearings where a lynching of an African American by a white mob has been documented. The commission has investigated over 35 cases of documented cases of lynching in Maryland.

President Coleman stated, "This bill will uncover more information about each of these lynching cases and then provide venues for people to talk about these episodes, in particular for descendants of the victims and perpetrators to talk about their feelings and reactions and how these crimes have affected their lives. It will also put into proper historical context these troubling events that did occur in the United States and Maryland."

The Randallstown Branch of the NAACP urges a favorable report from the committee on HB 0339.

yours,

Ryan Coleman Randallstown NAACP, President http://randallstownnaacp.yolasite.com