



House Bill 498

Committee: Judiciary

Date: February 14, 2024

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Multi-Housing Association (MMHA) is a professional trade association established in 1996, whose members house more than 538,000 residents of the State of Maryland. MMHA's membership consists of owners and managers of more than 210,000 rental housing homes in over 958 apartment communities and more than 250 associate member companies who supply goods and services to the multi-housing industry.

House Bill 498 ("HB 498") is a continuation of previous Access to Counsel program reporting that was included in the 2022 Joint Chairmen's Report, see bottom of page 5 and page 6 at this [link](#). Specifically, HB 498 will continue oversight of the Access to Counsel program as funding for the program transitions from federal funds to state funds.

HB 498 helps ensure appropriate evaluation and oversight of the Access to Counsel program and promotes transparency regarding how funding is being utilized for the program. For these reasons, MMHA respectfully requests a favorable report on HB 498.

Please contact Grason Wiggins at (912) 687-5745 with any questions.