

**Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee**  
**Senate Joint Resolution 3**  
**FAVORABLE**

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee;

Please give Senate Joint Resolution 3, The American Dream, a Favorable report.

Those of us who have studied history understand the tremendous importance of DEI policies. America can never be great without diversity, equity, and inclusion. It was white supremacist propaganda that brought us to the point where diversity and inclusion are now considered things that we should oppose, and equity has been completely misrepresented.

I grew up as a white girl in Prince George's County in the 1980s and 90s. I will forever be thankful to my parents for that opportunity. I experienced actual racial and cultural diversity throughout my youth. I was able to evaluate the practices of inclusion in both the local and magnet schools I attended. I learned the most about equity when, as a part of my high school's child development class, I volunteered at a school for children with profound physical and cognitive disabilities. The lessons that I learned as a child have had a significant impact on my life. I have benefited from DEI, not just because I'm a woman, but also because I have learned about so many other people's experiences that have differed from my own. I am a better person for it, and I have raised my own children to oppose bigotry.

I hope that you can also see the benefits of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our society, and that you will vote for SJ3. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Debi Jasen  
Pasadena, MD