

Support the Housing for Jobs Act (HB0503)

Dear Members of the House Environment & Transportation Committee,

We are the <u>Maryland Just Power Alliance</u>, a coalition of 3 non-partisan community power organizations: <u>Anne Arundel Connecting Together</u> (ACT), <u>Action in Montgomery</u> (AIM), and <u>People Acting Together in Howard</u> (PATH), representing tens of thousands of Maryland residents. We organize with people in congregations, schools, and neighborhoods to build power for policies that make our communities more fair and livable for everyone. We are asking you to support the Governor's Housing for Jobs Act (HB0503) when it is considered by the Environment & Transportation Committee.

Maryland has a shortage of 150,000 homes, which is driving up the cost of housing and creating a housing cost burden for a high percentage of our communities. Many young adults, seniors, essential workers, people of color, and people with disabilities lack affordable, quality housing options because of a lack of supply. We are committed to addressing the housing crisis through supply and other strategies, so that everyone can have a safe, healthy home they can afford.

We are counting on you to pass a strong version of this bill out of your committee.

Thank you for your consideration.