

March 4, 2025

<u>Testimony on House Bill 503</u> <u>Land Use - Regional Housing Infrastructure Gap (Housing for Jobs Act)</u> House Environment and Transportation Committee

Position: Favorable

Maryland Nonprofits is the statewide association representing nonprofit organizations and institutions in every county in Maryland. We urge you to support House Bill 503 to address the housing availability and affordability crisis that now challenges the health, safety, and financial stability of too many Maryland families, as well as the future economic growth of our state.

The lack of safe and affordable housing impacts too many Maryland families. Housing is more than a shelter issue – it has overlapping and interlocking impacts on health, education, safety, to shopping and food, and access to job opportunities. The home a family owns will normally be their primary financial asset.

Lack of affordable housing for workforce is also a key factor in sustaining and growing our state's economy, on a local, regional, or statewide basis. The Housing for Jobs Act of 2025, HB 503, will focus on:

- Identifying Housing Infrastructure Gaps
- Monitoring Approvals and Denials of Housing Development, and
- Setting and Enforcing Goals for Closing Gaps in Housing Infrastructure

Lack of adequate housing opportunities are retarding our economic growth and workforce development, and creating both physical and economic hardships for struggling families in our state.

We urge you to support House Bill 503.



Maryland Nonprofits' mission is to strengthen organizations and networks for greater quality of life and equity.