



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

February 26, 2025

Delegate Marc Korman
Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Regina T. Boyce
Vice Chair
Environment and Transportation Committee
251 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: Letter of Support for MD HB 1239 - Fair Housing and Housing Discrimination - Regulations, Intent, and Discriminatory Effect

Dear Chair Korman and Vice Chair Boyce:

I write to express my support for MD HB 1239, Fair Housing and Housing Discrimination - Regulations, Intent, and Discriminatory Effect. This legislation will help to prevent discriminatory and unlawful housing practices in the State of Maryland.

On September 24, 2020, the Trump administration issued a new rule, "HUD's Implementation of the Fair Housing Act's Disparate Impact Standard." While this rule was overturned by the Biden administration on March 17, 2023, I am concerned that President Trump will reinstate his 2020 rule or a similar policy. HB 1239 is an important measure to ensure Marylanders are protected from the arbitrary rulemaking of changing administrations and safeguard their protections from discriminatory policies on the state level.

Discrimination based on race, gender, national origin, or ethnicity is inconsistent with the Constitution and fundamental American principles of equal protection under the law. Codifying HB1239 is an important step to preserve a workable discriminatory effects standard and promote a housing market free from intentional discrimination and discriminatory effects alike.

Securing stable, affordable, and non-discriminatory housing is a critical step in reducing poverty and achieving socioeconomic equity. I urge the Maryland State House to report HB 1239 favorably out of the Environment and Transportation Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn F. Ivey", written in a cursive style.

Glenn F. Ivey
Member of Congress