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To: Members of the House Health and Government Operations Committee

From: Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA)

Subject: HB 1055 – Commission on Nondiscrimination - Establishment

Date: March 10, 2025

Position: **Support**

The Maryland State Bar Association (MSBA) **supports** House Bill 1055 – Commission on Nondiscrimination - Establishment. HB 1055 establishes the Commission on Nondiscrimination to monitor and study nondiscrimination laws and regulations and the impacts of the actions of the federal government on those laws and regulations and to recommend legislation to address any deficiencies in nondiscrimination protections in Maryland; and requires the Commission to submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 15 each year.

MSBA represents more attorneys than any other organization across the state in all practice areas. Through its advocacy committees and various practice-specific sections, MSBA monitors and takes positions on legislation that protects the legal profession, preserves the integrity of the judicial system, and ensures access to justice for Marylanders.

With membership of thousands of practitioners from over two dozen practice areas, as well as leading experts in the field of nondiscrimination laws, regulations, remedies, and litigation, MSBA welcomes the opportunity to provide expertise and provide two representatives to the Commission.

For these reasons, MSBA respectfully urges a favorable report on House Bill 1055.

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