## MARYLAND LEGISLATIVE LATINO CAUCUS



Lowe House Office Building, 6 Bladen Street, Room 200 · Annapolis, Maryland 21401 Phone 410-841-3374 | 301-858-3374 · 800-492-7122 *Ext*. 3374 · *Fax* 410-841-3342 | 301-858-3342 latino.caucus@house.state.md.us · www.mdlatinocaucus.org

ASHANTI MARTINEZ, CHAIR TO: GABRIEL ACEVERO, VICE-CHAIR DENI TAVERAS, TREASURER JOE VOGEL, SECRETARY JASON A. AVILA GARCIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DATE:

TO: Delegate Anne Healey, Chair Delegate Marvin E. Holmes Jr., Vice Chair Rules and Executive Nominations Committee Members
FROM: Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus
DATE: March 10, 2025
RE: HJ4 – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – The American Dream

## The MLLC supports HJ4 – Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion – The American Dream

The MLLC is a bipartisan group of Senators and Delegates committed to supporting legislation that improves the lives of Latinos throughout our state. The MLLC is a crucial voice in the development of public policy that uplifts the Latino community and benefits the state of Maryland. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to express our support of HJ4.

This house joint resolution affirms Maryland's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) as essential to equal opportunity and economic prosperity. It recognizes past DEI policies, such as the Civil Rights Act and Americans with Disabilities Act, as critical to expanding access to opportunities. The resolution condemns anti-DEI efforts for restricting free speech, harming the economy, and undermining civil rights. It urges policymakers, schools, and workplaces to uphold DEI principles and promote inclusivity. The resolution will be sent to state and national leaders, reinforcing Maryland's stance on DEI as a cornerstone of the American Dream.

This resolution reinforces equal opportunity, anti-discrimination protections, and economic inclusion for Latino communities. Latinos face systemic barriers in education, employment, and political representation. DEI policies help address these inequities by helping improve access to quality education, fair wages, and leadership opportunities. The resolution also rejects anti-DEI efforts, which often target marginalized groups, and affirms Maryland's commitment to fostering inclusive policies that protect Latino workers, students, and businesses.

For these reasons, the Maryland Legislative Latino Caucus respectfully requests a favorable report on HJ4.