



Governor Wes Moore

Lt. Governor Aruna Miller

Secretary Walter L. Simmons

Bill Number: House Bill 307
Title: Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund – Alterations
Committee: Economic Matters Committee
Hearing Date: March 4, 2026
Position: FWA

March 04, 2026

The Honorable Delegate Kriselda Valderrama
Chair, House Economic Matters Committee
231 House Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: House Bill 307 – Favorable With Amendment

Chair Valderrama, Vice Chair Charkoudian, and Members of the House Economic Matters Committee,

The Office of Social Equity respectfully submits this testimony in support of House Bill 307, Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund – Alterations

The Community Reinvestment and Repair Fund is a critical mechanism for reinvesting cannabis tax revenue into communities most harmed by past cannabis enforcement. House Bill 307 strengthens the administration of the fund by clarifying roles, reinforcing county planning requirements, and improving coordination between counties and the Office of Social Equity.

House Bill 307 provides counties with clearer guidance on identifying impacted communities and on allowable uses of CRRF resources. By requiring counties to clearly articulate how proposed expenditures align with authorized uses, the bill promotes transparency and accountability while preserving flexibility to address local priorities. The requirement that counties consult with the Office of Social Equity when developing or updating local CRRF plans will help ensure reinvestment efforts remain consistent statewide and centered on addressing the long-term harms of cannabis criminalization.

The Office of Social Equity notes that the bill expands its advisory role in supporting counties' CRRF planning efforts. We support this expanded role and believe it will strengthen implementation. At the same time, the bill does not currently include additional resources to support the staffing or administrative capacity necessary to carry out these responsibilities. We look forward to continued discussions around aligning resources to support the effective implementation of this important work.

For these reasons, the Office of Social Equity supports House Bill 307 and respectfully urges the Committee to issue a favorable report. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Should you have any questions, please contact me at audrey.johnson@maryland.gov or Courtney Davis, Deputy Director, at courtney.davis@maryland.gov.



Sincerely,
Audrey Johnson

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Audrey Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Executive Director