



**Local power, collective voice
for Maryland's children, youth and families**

February 5, 2025

SUPPORT – HB315 - Human Relations - Discrimination in Housing - Income-Based Housing Subsidies

Dear Delegates:

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Local Management Boards, I am writing in support of **HB315 - Human Relations - Discrimination in Housing - Income-Based Housing Subsidies** to prevent landlords from denying housing to families with vouchers. The current housing crisis which includes lack of affordable housing and escalating rents, is leaving many Maryland families at threat of homelessness. We cannot allow for discrimination to our families finding housing. This proposed Legislation prevents landlords from adding further barriers to our most vulnerable families.

Local Management Boards in each county and jurisdiction in the State of Maryland conduct community needs assessments and address the needs of children and families in their respective jurisdiction. We regularly work with unhoused families and families seeking housing. Section 8 vouchers are a lifeline for very low income families to access housing, especially given the affordability issues they currently face. We must make sure families with vouchers are still given access to affordable housing.

We urge you to support HB315 - Human Relations - Discrimination in Housing - Income-Based Housing Subsidies to protect those with housing vouchers and to prevent landlords from discriminating against them.

Sincerely,

Pamela M. Brown, PhD
Legislative Chair
Maryland Association of Local Management Boards