

Dear Honorable Chair Valderamma, Vice Chair Charkoudian, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Lori Kronser and I am a resident of Bowie, Maryland. I am writing in support of HB 313 - Landlord and Tenant - Residential Housing - Rental Applications and Tenant Screening

I am a member of Showing Up for Racial Justice Annapolis and Anne Arundel County(SURJ3A), Anne Arundel Connecting Together (ACT), and Annapolis NAACP. I attend church at Ark and Dove Presbyterian Church in Odenton, where we strive to uphold the biblical values of Matthew 25, including dismantling structural racism and creating social equity, as well as eradicating systemic poverty through systemic change.

One of the biggest barriers renters face is seeking fair housing is the unfair rejection of their applications because of credit scores, rental history, or criminal history. Discriminatory tenant screening practices create artificial barriers that do not help determine whether a person will pay the rent. By restricting what information a landlord can use when verifying an applicant and ensuring that the information is correct, more Marylanders will be able to find a stable home.

I urge you to vote in favor of HB 313 - Landlord and Tenant - Residential Housing - Rental Applications and Tenant Screening

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Lori Kronser

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