



NATIONAL FEDERATION  
OF THE BLIND  
MARYLAND

*Live the life you want.*

From: Ronza Othman, President  
National Federation of the Blind of Maryland  
15 Charles Plaza, #3002  
Baltimore, MD 21201 [president@nfbmd.org](mailto:president@nfbmd.org)

To: House Economic Matters Committee

The members of the National Federation of the Blind of Maryland urge the House Economic Matters Committee to give a favorable report to HB0573 Fair Housing and Housing Discrimination - Regulations, Intent, and Discriminatory Effect. The purpose of this bill is to end discriminatory impact against protected categories such as race, disability, etc. The department of housing and community development is required to work with the counties on this problem. The definition of “fair” must be clearly defined. The department must develop necessary regulations to prohibit and address discriminatory impact.

People with disabilities have had their rights to housing denied for many years due to disabilities. Sometimes this is due to discriminatory intent, but sometimes it is due to disparate impact. These regulations must be enforceable. These bills are a step in the right direction.

For those reasons, we ask for a favorable report on HB0573. For questions, please contact me at [President@nfbmd.org](mailto:President@nfbmd.org) or at 443-426-4110.