

**Written Testimony – In Support of Senate Joint Resolution 3 (SJ0003)  
Submitted to the Maryland General Assembly – Senate Education, Energy, and the  
Environment Committee**

**Position:** SUPPORT

**Date:** March 12, 2026

**Chair Feldman, Vice-Chair Kagan, and Distinguished Members of the Committee,**

The La Alianza Latina Commission of Howard County is an official advisory body dedicated to uniting and elevating the voices of Latinos in Howard County through advocacy, legislation, inclusive policies, and partnerships to ensure every individual's potential is realized. Our vision is to advance the highest quality of life for the Latino community in Howard County by centering equity, empowerment, and collaborative leadership in all that we do.

Our commission strongly supports Senate Joint Resolution 3 (SJ0003), which acknowledges Maryland's responsibility in historical racial terror lynchings and commits to pursuing reparative actions. Supporting this resolution is consistent with our responsibility to advocate for policies that advance dignity, opportunity, and shared prosperity for *all* Marylanders.

Systemic racism is not an isolated historical footnote; it has profoundly shaped institutions and public policies, creating inequities that continue to affect communities of color across Maryland. While SJ0003F directly addresses the specific racial terror inflicted primarily upon Black Marylanders, the Commission recognizes that the pursuit of justice is indivisible.

The resolution's commitment to truth, reconciliation, and repair does not merely benefit one community, but rather, it strengthens the very foundation of justice and equity for all marginalized communities, including our Latino residents. A state that openly acknowledges its past injustices and commits to meaningful repair is a state better positioned to foster trust, dismantle persistent systemic barriers, and ensure truly inclusive growth for everyone.

**For these reasons, the La Alianza Latina Commission respectfully urges a favorable report on SJ0003.**

Thank you for your consideration,

Membership of the Howard County La Alianza Latina Commission