



# HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

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**HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUITY**  
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Calvin Ball, County Executive, • Brandee Ganz, Chief Administrative Officer  
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**To: Chair Senator Brian J. Feldman, Vice Chair Senator Cheryl C. Kagan and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee**

**From: The Howard County Human Rights Commission**

**Re: TESTIMONY REGARDING Senate Joint Resolution 3: Apology and Acknowledgement of the State's Responsibility in Racial Terror Lynchings**

Dear Chair Senator Feldman, Vice Chair Senator Kagan, and members of the Education, Energy and the Environment Committee:

The Howard County Human Rights Commission, the purpose of which is to protect and promote human rights, supports Senate Joint Resolution 3. The resolution formally acknowledges Maryland's complicity and negligence in allowing the perpetration of acts of racial terror, including lynching, for which no one was held accountable, and failing to provide Black Marylanders equal protection and due process under the law.

The resolution recognizes the lasting harm these injustices caused and commits the State to taking meaningful reparative actions recommended by the Maryland Lynching Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Passing the resolution is an essential step toward truth and accountability.

Sincerely,  
The Howard County Human Rights Commission