

Government, Labor, and Elections Committee
House Bill 47
Favorable

Honorable Chair Wells, Vice Chair Kerr, and Members of the Government, Labor, and Elections Committee;

We, the Steering Committee of One Pasadena: Building a Safe and Inclusive Community, ask you to please give House Bill 47 a favorable report.

Pasadena, located in northeast Anne Arundel County, has a significant history of racism. You can find numerous Confederate flags in our neighborhoods, both in front of houses and on pickup trucks. One of the Pasadena middle schools was named after a segregationist, and there was significant pushback when, just a few years ago, the name was changed to match the closest high school. There are many people in Pasadena who have defended memorials to Confederates, as though people could possibly learn accurate history by seeing racists honored.

Pasadena is not the only community known for its bigotry, and it would not surprise us to find out there are places where property is named after those who supported slavery. We believe that this proposed commission is overdue.

Please vote favorable on House Bill 47. Thank you.

Sincerely,
The One Pasadena Steering Committee
Pasadena, MD