



LEGISLATIVE BLACK CAUCUS OF MARYLAND, INC.

The Maryland House of Delegates, 6 Bladen Street, Room 300, Annapolis, Maryland 21401
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Dear Chair and Members of the Committee,

The Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland offers its strong and favorable support for House Bill 160 (HB160) –State and Local Government - Real Property - Confederate Naming Prohibited. HB 160 prevents any political entity or subdivision in Maryland from naming public property after a Confederate individual or entity.

This bill stops the adoption of Confederate-linked names in public spaces and prevents any future honoring of individuals who actively enslaved African Americans or fought to maintain the institution of slavery. Public areas and spaces should not commemorate those who denied the rights, freedom, and humanity of African Americans in the United States.

The purpose of HB 160 is to ensure that state and local governments do not name public buildings, land, or property after Confederate figures or symbols. By enforcing this bill, the initiative prevents controversy, reflects equality, and protects public trust. Government-owned buildings must not be given Confederate names in the future.

HB 160 will help reduce division in communities and ensure that public property represents inclusion for all residents. This legislation stops the glorification of the Confederacy and ensures that the government does not endorse symbols associated with slavery and oppression.

This critical issue highlights why HB 160 is a necessary step toward reducing potential community conflict, while promoting names that positively reflect Maryland's history, values, and Black heroes.

For these reasons, the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland strongly supports HB 160.

Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland

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