

Rules and Executive Nominations Committee
House Joint Resolution 8
Favorable

Honorable Chair Healey, Vice Chair Holmes, and Members of the Rules and Executive Nominations Committee;

Please give House Joint Resolution 8 a favorable report.

Maryland has a lot to apologize for, and apologies are great. Reparations are better. It doesn't matter that no one in the current state government perpetrated the actions. No one is asking you to feel guilty or responsible for those actions. Those who committed the crimes are dead, but they were enabled by the state and you now represent the state. There can be no building of trust or security without accountability.

Those who oppose this bill could try thinking of the state as a business, and you are the new CEO. Some past employees did something that harmed a lot of people and the previous CEO didn't do anything about it. Perhaps he was even part of it. No one is saying that you participated in the actions, but you are still expected to apologize on behalf of the company and to adequately address the grievances of those who were affected. This is definitely an imperfect analogy, but perhaps it will help.

We urge a favorable report for House Joint Resolution 8. Thank you.

Sincerely,
The One Pasadena Steering Committee
Pasadena, MD