

Rules and Executive Nominations Committee  
House Joint Resolution 3  
Favorable

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

Please give House Joint Resolution 3 a favorable report.

Earlier this month, Delegate Matt Morgan stood on the House floor and said that teaching history through the lenses of the oppressed versus the oppressor is “anti-American” and “divisive.” His ideal history curriculum would include only that which shows the United States in a positive light, with all things wonderful about the U.S. being accomplished by white, cisgender, heterosexual, conservative Christian men. To accurately tell the histories of the United States and of other parts of the world, we can’t teach from Del. Morgan’s viewpoint. His version of history is a lie.

People of all races, ethnicities, gender identities, sexual orientations, religions, classes, and political beliefs are part of the history of this country. Some of that history hasn’t been pretty. Some of that history doesn’t show the United States in a positive light. Some of that history has included discrimination against people based on their race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, class, or political belief. Those histories must be acknowledged and taught. Likewise, we should teach about the contributions and cultures of people beyond lessons that are specifically about discrimination. ALL of it is part of OUR history.

Histories have always been whitewashed, or completely erased, in this country. What the Trump administration is doing isn’t new. But with the internet, we have more access to information and can find the truth. All of the histories of this country are American history. So let’s teach them.

Sincerely,  
Debi Jasen  
Pasadena, MD