

Please give House Bill 159 a FAVORABLE report.

House Bill 159 would create a commission to study the racial disparities in wealth and resources in Maryland due to tax laws and systems from the Reconstruction Era through the 1964 Civil Rights Act. The commission would also recommend appropriate compensation for the wealth lost due to these racist laws and systems, and any future legislation needed to deal with that.

We should all know by now that a significant percentage of Black people in this country were denied generational wealth due to enslavement and the ongoing racial discrimination after the Civil War, including (but not limited to) educational, occupational, and housing segregation. Descendants of those African Americans have been directly affected by the racism of the past. Wealth disparities aren't due to some racist idea that Black people are lazy, but due to the realities of racial oppression. Reparations for the evils of the past should've been made long, long ago. Please give HB159 a Favorable report.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,  
Debi Jasen