

Errata Sheet

ANALYSIS OF IMPEDIMENTS TO FAIR HOUSING CHOICE

Baltimore Metropolitan Region

Corrections to February 2012 Regional Section

Corrections to p. 10, starting with first full paragraph

Overall the Baltimore region was highly segregated in 2000. Howard County had the lowest dissimilarity index of 36.4. Anne Arundel and Harford Counties were more segregated, with indices near 45 and 50, respectively. Baltimore City and Baltimore County were both highly segregated, with indices above 60. According to this data, 69.2% of Blacks in Baltimore City would have to move elsewhere within the city in order to achieve full integration.

Figure 2-5
Maryland Municipal Dissimilarity Index Rankings, 2000

Rank	City/County	Black Population	White Population	Total Population	Dissimilarity Index
1	Howard County	35,412	183,886	247,842	36.4
2	Anne Arundel County	65,280	397,893	489,656	45.9
3	Harford County	19,831	189,489	218,590	50.3
4	Baltimore County	149,943	561,524	754,292	60.7
5	Baltimore City	417,231	206,445	651,154	69.2

Source: CensusScope & U.S. Census 2000; Mullin & Lonergan Associates Baltimore Regional AI Public Hearing Presentation, January 18, 2012.

OBSERVATION: Overall the Baltimore region was highly segregated in 2000. Among participating jurisdictions, Baltimore City was determined to be the most segregated, with a dissimilarity index of 69.2 among Black residents and White residents.

Corrections to pp. 42-43: Comparison of Classes Protected by Law

Distinctions between anti-discrimination laws at the federal, state, and local levels are significant because they represent the levels at which persons claiming discrimination can seek recourse. In general, local laws across the Baltimore region provide a wider scope of protection than the federal Fair Housing Act and the Maryland Human Relations Act, though there are some exceptions, including Anne Arundel County, which has no statutory fair housing protections. Two jurisdictions (Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties) do not prohibit discrimination on the basis of familial status, as federal and state law do, and two jurisdictions (Anne Arundel and Harford Counties) do not prohibit discrimination on the basis of religion. This means that residents of those areas who allege this type of discrimination cannot pursue cases at the local level. While sexual orientation is not a basis for federal protection, it is protected by the State of Maryland, Howard County, and Baltimore City. Therefore, Anne Arundel, Harford, and Baltimore County residents who experience this type of discrimination may only pursue recourse at the state level.

The importance of local anti-discrimination laws as a policy stance should not be understated. The lack of laws against familial status discrimination in Anne Arundel and Baltimore Counties and religious discrimination in Anne Arundel and Harford Counties has a minimal practical effect – such practices are still made illegal by state and federal law – but it is a point of inconsistency with the Fair Housing Act that should be remedied as a part of each community’s efforts to affirmatively further fair housing.

Local jurisdictions in the Baltimore region provide protection on a variety of progressive fronts that are less commonly found in other areas of the country, including gender identity, political opinion, and personal appearance. A detailed comparison of all categories receiving statutory fair housing protection across the region appears in the following table.

Figure 2-40
Comparison of Classes Protected by Federal, State and Local Statute for Housing

Protected Class	Federal Fair Housing Act	Maryland Civil Rights Law	Anne Arundel County	Baltimore City	Baltimore County	Harford County	Howard County
Race	●	●	No local law – As in other jurisdictions, Federal and Maryland protections apply and can be enforced at those levels.*	●	●	●	●
Color	●	●		●	●	●	●
National Origin	●	●		●	●	●	●
Religion	●	●		●	●		●
Sex	●	●		●	●	●	●
Familial Status	●	●		●		●	●
Disability	●	●		●	●	●	●
Marital Status		●		●	●	●	●
Sexual Orientation		●			●		●
Gender Identity							●
Creed					●	●	●
Age				●	●	●	●
Occupation						●	●
Political Opinion						●	●
Personal Appearance						●	●
Source of Income				**			●
Ancestry				●			

*Anne Arundel County Executive Order 26 establishes the County Human Relations Commission, which has no statutory enforcement power but whose objective is receive and refer complaints of discrimination based upon creed, color, age, sex, disability, political affiliation, marital status, or national origin.

**The City of Baltimore protects some sources of income (alimony and child support), but not others, such as rental assistance.