

HOUSE BILL 618

D5

8lr1351

By: **Delegates Rosenberg, Ali, Oaks, and Reznik**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2008

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Human Relations Commission - Discrimination in Housing - Reasonable**
3 **Accommodations for Religious Practices**

4 FOR the purpose of establishing that it is unlawful to refuse to make certain
5 reasonable accommodations for certain religious practices in the operation of
6 certain multifamily dwellings; and generally relating to reasonable
7 accommodations for religious practices.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article 49B – Human Relations Commission
10 Section 22(a)(9) and (10)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

13 BY adding to
14 Article 49B – Human Relations Commission
15 Section 22(a)(11)
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2003 Replacement Volume and 2007 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article 49B – Human Relations Commission**

21 22.

22 (a) Except as provided in § 21 of this subtitle, it is unlawful:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (9) To refuse to make reasonable accommodations in rules, policies,
2 practices, or services when the accommodations may be necessary to afford an
3 individual with a disability equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling; [or]

4 (10) To fail to design or construct a covered multifamily dwelling for
5 first occupancy as required under subsection (b) of this section[.]; **OR**

6 **(11) TO REFUSE TO MAKE REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR**
7 **RELIGIOUS PRACTICES IN THE OPERATION OF A COVERED MULTIFAMILY**
8 **DWELLING, INCLUDING AN APARTMENT BUILDING OR CONDOMINIUM.**

9 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
10 October 1, 2008.