

Pherson, Lavonne R.

From: Robert Burch <pbholdingcompany@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 03, 2020 3:28 PM
To: Comments; mike_thomas@cardin.senate.gov
Cc: cra@naceda.org
Subject: [EXTERNAL MESSAGE] RIN 3064-AF22

Dear Mmes./Sirs:

As a community developer in Baltimore City, I am strongly opposed to the proposed changes to the Community Reinvestment Act, which would result in significantly fewer loans, investments, and services to low- and moderate-income communities. This proposal would make redlining legal again, permitting banks to avoid investment in low-income and minority neighborhoods.

About three years ago PB Holding Company started a community development project in a Baltimore City neighborhood called East Harwood. At that time there was nearly a 50% vacancy rate in the neighborhood. From when we started to the present, we have invested over \$1M gutting and renovating homes, stabilizing a neighborhood, lifting spirits and creating jobs. It has taken this long to build momentum, and our work is far from done. Neighborhoods like East Harwood need reinvestment for the good of the whole City, and limiting access to capital would kill projects such as the East Harwood community development.

On behalf of the low- and moderate-income people and places that my organization serves, I ask that you please discard this proposal and start again.

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Best,
Rob Burch

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