

# The H.O.M.E. Act

## Source of Income (SOI)

The income must be verifiable, regular, and legal. Some examples include:

- Employment wages
- Social Security benefits
- Retirement income
- Child support and/or alimony
- Housing Choice Voucher

## Housing Choice Vouchers

Vouchers are a form of housing assistance issued by HUD to eligible low-income individuals and families.

Landlords must comply with Federal, State, and Local fair housing laws and cannot discriminate against voucher holders.

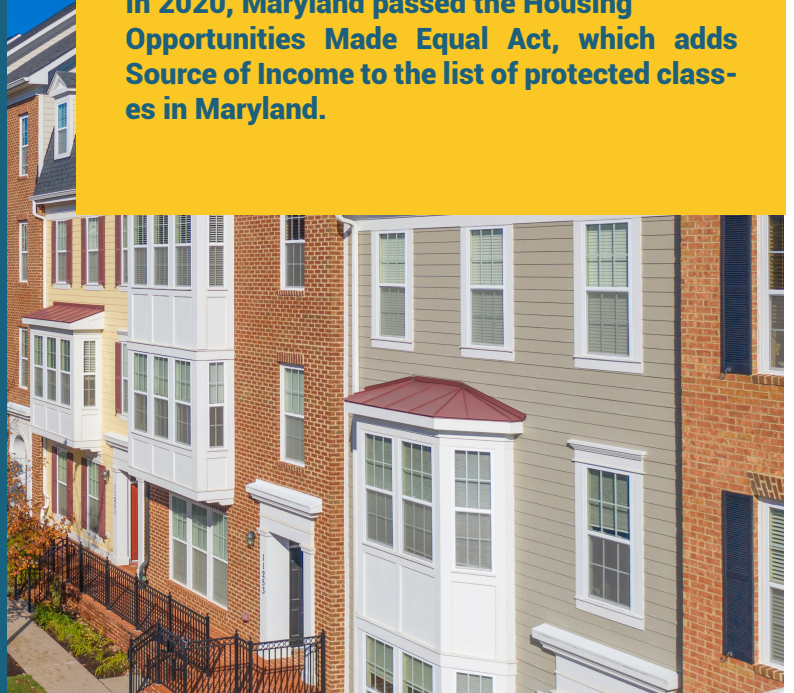
Voucher holders must pay 30-40% of their income on rent.

## SOI Discrimination

The Fair Housing Act defines discrimination broadly as any attempt to prohibit or limit free and fair housing choice based on membership in a protected class. By refusing to accept Housing Choice Vouchers or creating additional barriers for voucher holders, landlords limit access to housing. Some examples include:

- Advertising that includes “no vouchers/ Section 8” or other language that implies the landlord will not accept vouchers.
- Using a separate application process for voucher holders
- Not including the voucher amount so the tenant can’t qualify under the income qualifications
- Requiring voucher holders to move in on the 1st of the month
- Intentionally pricing a unit beyond what a voucher would cover

In 2020, Maryland passed the Housing Opportunities Made Equal Act, which adds Source of Income to the list of protected classes in Maryland.



If you have experienced discrimination in housing, please visit our website below and use our Fair Housing intake form, or scan the QR code below:



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[econaction.org](http://econaction.org)

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