

# County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2020 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 4

## RESOLUTION NO. 41 - 2020

Introduced by: The Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

**A RESOLUTION**, in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare, extending the State of  
Emergency declared by Executive Order issued on March 15, 2020, which related to COVID-19.

Introduced and read first time March 20, 2020.

By order

  
Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator

Read for a ~~second~~ time at a public hearing on March 20, 2020.

By order

  
Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator

This Resolution was read the ~~third~~ <sup>2nd</sup> time and was Adopted  Adopted with amendments , Failed , Withdrawn , by the County Council  
on March 20, 2020.

Certified By

  
Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator

Approved by the County Executive on March 20, 2020.

  
Calvin Ball, County Executive

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing law; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing law; ~~Strike-out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment

1           **WHEREAS**, on March 5, 2020, Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of the State of  
2 Maryland, declared a state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency to control and prevent the  
3 spread of COVID-19, a communicable respiratory disease that may result in serious injury or death,  
4 within the State of Maryland, including Howard County, a political subdivision of the State, and that  
5 emergency still exists; and

6  
7           **WHEREAS**, on March 12, 2020, pursuant to his authority under Title 14 of the Public Safety  
8 Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, Governor Hogan signed an executive order recognizing that  
9 the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends social distancing to reduce the spread  
10 of COVID-19; and

11  
12           **WHEREAS**, since March 12, 2020, Governor Hogan has issued several executive orders to  
13 direct action in all of the political subdivisions of Maryland; and

14  
15           **WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2020, the Howard County Health Department was informed of the  
16 first confirmed case of COVID-19 and the number of confirmed cases in the County has continued to  
17 increase; and

18  
19           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 6.103 of the Howard County Code and Title 14 of the Public  
20 Safety Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, by Executive Order No. 2020-02, the County Executive  
21 declared a state of emergency within the County in order to protect the public health, safety and welfare  
22 against the further spread of COVID-19 in Howard County; and

23  
24           **WHEREAS**, Section 6.103(c) of the Howard County Code provides that the state of emergency  
25 declared by Executive Order 2020-02 will expire on March 22, 2020, unless extended by Resolution of  
26 the County Council; and

27  
28           **WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 6.104(a) of the Howard County Code, the County Executive  
29 may exercise certain emergency functions during a declared state of emergency within the County,  
30 including, but not limited to the following:

- 31           (1)     Control traffic, including public and private transportation;  
32           (2)     Designate zones in the area of the emergency in which occupancy and use of buildings

1 and vehicles may be controlled;

2 (3) Control places of amusement and places of assembly; and

3 (4) Control individuals on public streets; and

4  
5 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 6.104(a)(3) of the Howard County Code, the County Executive  
6 issued Executive Order 2020-02 that ordered the following businesses to be closed during the declared  
7 state of emergency:

8 (1) The Mall in Columbia and all businesses in the Mall proper, which does not include the  
9 restaurants located on Mall property but with entrances outside the Mall; and

10 (2) The Shops at Savage Mill; and

11 (3) AMC Columbia Movie Theater; and

12 (4) Regal Theater at Snowden Square; and

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to section 6.103 of the Howard County Code and Title 14 of the Public  
15 Safety Article of the Maryland Annotated Code, the County Executive issued Executive Order No.  
16 2020-03, that suspends legal and procedural deadlines, including but not limited to those for licenses,  
17 permits, registrations or other authorizations that are under the authority of Howard County as set out in  
18 the Governor's March 12, 2020 executive order; and

19  
20 **WHEREAS**, the catastrophic health emergency continues to pose a risk of imminent harm, or  
21 even death, to individuals and continues to threaten the lives, health, and safety of individuals and will  
22 continue beyond March 22, 2020; and

23  
24 **WHEREAS**, the County Executive needs to continue to exercise the Emergency Powers under  
25 Sections 6.103 and 6.104 of the County Code to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

26  
27 **WHEREAS**, extending the declared state of emergency in Howard County is necessary to  
28 protect public health, safety, and welfare; and

29  
30 **WHEREAS**, executive orders issued by the Governor of Maryland related to COVID-19 apply  
31 and are in effect in all political subdivisions within the State of Maryland, including Howard County.

1           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,  
2 Maryland this 20th day of March, 2020, that the state of emergency declared by the  
3 County Executive through the Executive Order 2020-02, issued on March 15, 2020, shall continue and  
4 remain in effect while the state of emergency and/or the catastrophic health emergency declared by  
5 Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. remains in effect or until terminated by Executive Order  
6 issued by the County Executive, whichever is later.