

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Susan Moody <susanmoody822@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 6:48 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan  
**Cc:** CB55YES@mail.com  
**Subject:** For CB-55

Vote for and sign CB-55. Repeal this regressive tax that targets poor people.

Susan Moody  
9506 Red Apple Lane  
Columbia, MD 21046

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Guy Moody <moodys@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 7:18 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan  
**Cc:** cb55yes@mail.com  
**Subject:** Vote Yes and Pass CB55

Dear County Council and County Executive Kittleman,

Please vote yes (Council) and sign (Mr. Kittleman) County Bill 55 into law. It is simply unconscionable that some of our most vulnerable county residents are paying this rental tax, often forcing them to make tough choices to forego buying food, seeking medical care, and other necessities to the extreme detriment of their families and themselves. Surely, a county as wealthy as ours can find better ways to raise money than on the backs of these residents through this regressive tax.

Sincerely,

Guy Moody  
9506 Red Apple Lane  
Columbia, MD 21046  
Cell Phone: (240) 447-0831  
Sent from my iPhone

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Philip Curran <pastor@cucc-md.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 6:37 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan  
**Subject:** CB55

Good Morning County Executive Kittleman and Council Members,

I'm writing to ask that the vote on CB55 not be delayed and that it be passed.  
The guiding texts that help form my faith are filled with references to being hyper aware of those who struggle.

From my perspective, budget issues should never be resolved or alleviated by saddling those who have the least amount of financial resources with unfair taxes.

As we work together to build a healthier, stronger Howard County, may we not make the lives of those who are financially challenged more difficult.

With Gratitude,  
Phil Curran

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Philip N. Curran  
Pastor  
Columbia United Christian Church  
301-514-2742

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** RoseMarie Meservey <rmmeserv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 5:40 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Vote Today to approve CB55

Howard Council Members:

I was at the hearing on July 16 and witnessed powerful testimony urging the repeal of the regressive tax on Mobile Home residents. Sadly our County does little to insure affordable housing in our borders. Mobile home living is the only non-subsidized housing we have. The majority of the residents are lower income and many are on fixed incomes and living on a shoestring budget.

Recently Anne Arundel repealed their comparable tax. It is past time for Howard County to follow their lead.

Sincerely,

RoseMarie Meservey

**Sayers, Margery**

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**From:** nanettems@aol.com  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 6:53 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Repeal of tax on mobile home park residents

Member of the Howard County Council,

As a resident of Howard County, I am emailing in support of repealing the tax for mobile home park residents.  
Please **VOTE YES ON PASSAGE of CB55.**

Thank you.

Nanette M. Schweitzer  
10001 Windstream Dr., #108  
Columbia, MD 21044

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Amy R Brooks <amyreeneebrooks@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 7:09 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** No more mobile home tax

This unfair tax must end. HoCo is better than this!!

Amy Brooks- 21045

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Ron Meservey <rtmeserv@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 7:25 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Vote to approve CB55 today

Dear County Council Members,

Please approve CB55 at today's session, the bill to terminate the tax on mobile home park residents, as Anne Arundel and other counties have recently done. It is a burdensome tax on some of Howard County's poorest and most vulnerable residents and cannot be justified. Thank you in advance for your compassion and sense of decency.

Sincerely,

Ron Meservey  
9447 Brett Ln, Columbia, MD 21045

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Kelly Johnson <ksumme@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 9:14 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan  
**Subject:** don't delay CB55

Dear County Executive Kittleman: Please don't delay. It's past time to give relief to some of our most vulnerable Howard County residents. Please pass bill CB55 and eliminate this unfair and onerous tax on trailer park residents!!

I enjoyed meeting you at the 4th of July parade in Clarksville this year.

Sincerely,  
Kelly Johnson

Micah 6:8: He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Ann Smith <annbsmith@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 9:12 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Vote to approve CB55 today!

Dear County Council Members,

Please approve CB55 at today's session, the bill to terminate the tax on mobile home park residents, as Anne Arundel and other counties have recently done. It is a burdensome tax on some of Howard County's poorest and most vulnerable residents and cannot be justified. Thank you in advance for your compassion and sense of decency.

If you want to balance the budget, add an equivalent tax on homes greater than 4000 square feet, as these people can better afford it.

Sincerely,

Ann Smith  
[9443 Brett Ln, Columbia, MD 21045](mailto:annbsmith@gmail.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Gail Holm <gailholm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 8:33 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CB-55

I urge you to vote yes on CB 55 today. Research over past months has indicated that mobile homes owners are paying an extra unfair tax. Other jurisdictions have abolished this type of tax. Howard County should do the same. We don't need to burden citizens who are struggling to make ends meet with unfair taxes.

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Jeanne Bolton <jbolton05@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 8:12 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Vote YES on CB55!!!!

Dear County Council Members: Please don't delay. It's past time to give relief to some of our most vulnerable Howard County residents. . Please vote YES on bill CB55 and eliminate this unfair and onerous tax on trailer park residents!!

Jeanne Bolton  
7546 Red Cravat Ct.  
Columbia, MD 21046

Jeanne Bolton  
jbolton05@verizon.net

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Hector R. Rodriguez <hectorraul@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 8:08 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Pass CB55, repealing the regressive tax on Mobile Home Park residents

If ever a tax was to be repealed, this is it! I trust you will repeal it this morning without delay!

Héctor R. Rodríguez  
6960 Sunfleck Row  
Columbia, MD  
443-631-0115



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Twila McDonough <twilalm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 8:02 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Mobile Home Tax

Please vote THIS am to approve  
CB 55.

Property owns are paying taxes. Apartment renters do not pay a monthly tax to Howard.  
If "you" OWN the land pay the taxes.

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** joel hurewitz <joelhurewitz@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 26, 2018 8:34 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Support Amendment 1 to CB55-2018

Dear Councilmembers,

I write in support of Amendment 1 to CB55-2018. At the public hearing, I testified on the need for language to implement the repeal of the Mobile Home Site Rental Tax and help ensure that any refunds are credited or refunded to the renters. While the language does not address every possible scenario or deal with the confusion I anticipate for some in paying their rent and tax in August and September in advance of the effective date in 61 days, the amendment substantially addresses the major implementation issues.

To make the enforcement of the amendment comparable to other parts of the Mobile Home Site Rental Tax law, I would suggest that "(k)" be added in page 3, line 5. Furthermore, to make the law less cumbersome, the amendment itself could be inserted on page 2, line 31 as paragraph "(j)" and renumber paragraph "(j)" as paragraph "(k)."

In addition, because the record keeping and notice requirements of the Mobile Home Site Rental Tax will remain applicable for several years after repeal, the deletion of the old tax amounts in page 1, line 22 will cause the need for additional research by those reading the codified bill. In the absence of leaving the old tax amounts in the Code, perhaps Municode could be asked to write a detailed editor's note.

Please let me know if you need clarification on these topics.

Sincerely,

Joel Hurewitz



July 16, 2018

Mary Kay Sigaty, Chairperson  
Howard County Council  
George Howard Building  
3430 Courthouse Drive  
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Re: Council Bill 55-2018

Dear Chairwoman Sigaty,

Bridges to Housing Stability, Inc. ("Bridges") would like to take this opportunity to thank County Councilpersons Jen Terrasa and Calvin Ball for introducing CB55-2018 to repeal what we believe is a regressive tax on some of the most economically-vulnerable renters in the County. In a county where there is already a shortage of affordable rental housing for low-income households (eg. a dearth of about 6,000 units for households making 50% or less of the County's median income), mobile homes parks offer some of our County's residents one of most financially-sustainable housing rental options available. Any tax imposed on mobile home renters is an additional housing burden that makes the housing less sustainable and increases their risk of homelessness.

While we understand that this tax generates income for the County in the amount of approximately \$614,500 per annum and that any repeal of the tax equates to a reduction in the amount of funding available to cover public services, this amount is a nominal percentage of the County's overall budget (0.055%) while the taxes paid by these individuals and families comprise a significant percentage of their spendable income. Further, keeping mobile home rentals affordable means fewer households becoming homeless and needing homelessness services, which represents a separate cost to the County and taxpayers. Providing access to housing generally results in cost savings for communities because housed people are less likely to use emergency services such shelters, hospitals and jails, than those who are homeless. A 2017 national study and report by the National Alliance to End Homelessness found that a chronically homeless person costs taxpayers an average of \$35,578 per year. At that rate, the tax revenue generated by this tax would be offset by costs/expenses to the community by as few as 17 more households becoming and remaining homeless over the course of one year. If this bill and the repeal of a rather punitive tax allows our community to preserve some of the most affordable housing available in the County and keep these individuals and families housed, then in the long-run it will prove to be a cost-effective measure for taxpayers.

Other landlords in the community are not legislatively mandated to assess a tax on their renters the way the existing law requires of mobile home/lot landlords, so in comparison it appears punitive against some of the most economically-vulnerable residents in our County. Even if the tax weren't directly billed to the renter, any tax on mobile home rentals would still be passed through by a mobile home/lot landlord to the renter, so the solution is not to make it a tax on the landlord, but to repeal it all together, as CB55-2018 proposes.

We hope that the County Council members and our community recognizes the value in preserving the affordability of mobile home housing for the most vulnerable in our community and that they see the value of measures that will help reduce the risk of homeless for these residents. We appreciate the County Council's vigil in striking the appropriate balance between the County's resources and the public benefit of preventing homelessness and hope that the County Council passes CB55-2018.

Thank you for your service and your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Kelly McLaughlin  
Executive Director  
Bridges to Housing Stability, Inc.

Howard County Council  
George Howard Building  
CB1-2018 & 2-2018  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

July 24, 2018

To the Honorable Council Chair Sigaty:

Please accept this letter as written testimony in support of CB55-2014, Repeal of Mobile Home Site Tax.

Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, which serves as the single point of access for the Coordinated System for Homeless Services, as well as the Emergency Shelter for Howard County is often where people end up when they are unable to continue to afford safe, stable housing. In this tight rental market, affordable housing for those with limited income is vital to our community.

We ask Howard County Council, to support Councilperson Terrasa's bill to repeal the regressive and harmful tax on individuals renting mobile homes. This tax is a heavy burden on individuals and families who are already struggling to make ends meet. Additionally, this is NOT a property tax. It is renter tax, one that no renter is asked to pay for apartments, townhomes or any other dwelling.  
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We thank you and all the Council Members for your time and service. If you have any follow up questions, I am available anytime.

Sincerely,

Ayesha B. Holmes  
Executive Director



## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Gail Holm <gailholm@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 11:33 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CB-55

Dear Council members:

Please vote "Yes" on CB-55. This is an unfair tax on some of the most vulnerable of our citizens.

Thank you.

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Gail P. Holm

## Sayers, Margery

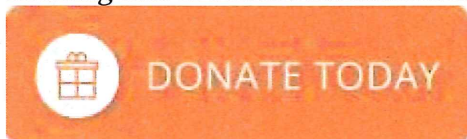
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**From:** Kelly McLaughlin <kelly@bridges2hs.org>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 25, 2018 10:51 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Gelwicks, Colette; Terrasa, Jen  
**Subject:** Testimony in favor of CB55-2018

I respectfully submit this testimony, on behalf of Bridges to Housing Stability, Inc., in favor of CB55-2018. Thank you.

Kelly McLaughlin  
Executive Director  
**Bridges to Housing Stability, Inc.**  
9520 Berger Road  
Columbia, MD 21046  
410-312-5760, ext. 100

**Consider a gift to Bridges to Housing Stability to help households achieve self-sufficiency through stable housing and to reduce homelessness in Howard County!**



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## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** O'Malley, Beth <omalley@hood.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 15, 2018 9:37 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Vote for CB55

Dear Council members,

I ask you to support the abolition of the Mobile Home Rental Tax (CB55).

Residents of mobile home parks in [Howard County](#) pay between \$50-\$60 a month/\$600-\$700 a year in rental tax. This tax unfairly targets poor people and is a serious hardship for most who live in mobile homes. This tax is ONLY on people who live in mobile homes on rented lots and does not apply to apartments or condos. This type of tax is illegal in other parts of Maryland.

The majority of mobile home residents are often income challenged and struggle regularly to afford the basics, frequently not having money for extra expenses like: car repairs, home repairs, childcare, schools supplies, after-school activities, clothing, doctors & medicine, dental work/dentures, eyeglasses, hearing aids etc. Eliminating this regressive tax will be a vote to support our more vulnerable neighbors and make Howard County's tax system more fair, and in line with other MD counties.

Thank you,

Rev. Beth A. O'Malley  
[8418 West Grove Rd.](#)  
[Ellicott City, MD 21043](#)

Sent from my iPhone

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** James Murdoch <jlmurdo@verizon.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 10:09 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail; Kittleman, Allan  
**Subject:** RE: CB55

Dear County Council Members,

Please approve CB55 at today's session, the bill to terminate the tax on mobile home park residents, as Anne Arundel and other counties have recently done. It is a burdensome tax on some of Howard County's poorest and most vulnerable residents and cannot be justified. Thank you in advance for your compassion and sense of decency.

Sincerely,

James Lawrence & Koral N. Murdoch  
9000 Fathers Legacy, Ellicott City Md 21042  
jlmurdo@verizon.net

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** DIANA Mosley <dwmonbrr@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 10:03 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Please approve CB55

Dear County Council Members,

Please approve CB55 at today's session, the bill to terminate the tax on mobile home park residents, as Anne Arundel and other counties have recently done. It is a burdensome tax on some of Howard County's poorest and most vulnerable residents and cannot be justified. Thank you in advance for your compassion and sense of decency.

Sincerely,

Diana Mosley  
9752 Basket Ring Road, Columbia, MD 21045

## Sayers, Margery

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**From:** Susan Nicholson <suebbq@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, July 27, 2018 9:39 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Sue Nicholson  
**Subject:** CB55

Please don't delay. It's past time to give relief to some of our most vulnerable Howard County residents. . Please pass bill CB55 and eliminate this unfair and onerous tax on trailer park residents!!

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Sue Nicholson  
[suebbq@gmail.com](mailto:suebbq@gmail.com)

I am Bitia Dayhoff, president of Community Action Council of Howard County. CAC is the county's designated antipoverty organization and as such we provide services to low income families who struggle to make ends meet. Our services include housing, food, and energy assistance as well as early childhood education such as Head Start and PreK.

I am here in support of Council Bill 55 which proposes to repeal the Mobile Site Rental Tax. Mobile homes are the most affordable housing in the county and are mostly occupied by individuals who work hard yet struggle to make ends meet in our highly affluent and very expensive community.

While mobile homes might be the most affordable in the county, many of their residents are still spending more than 30% of their income on their housing cost. on an annual basis, CAC serves approximately 965 individuals who live in mobile homes in Howard County. In order to be eligible for our services, a family's income must be at about 175% of the federal poverty level which for a family of four is about \$25k per year and its about \$12,000 for an individual.

Many of the residents of mobile homes are elderly and on fixed income and in light of increasing living expenses in Howard County can use the additional \$540 a year they are currently paying on the rental tax toward paying their rent, utilities, food and gasoline.

The elimination of this tax is significant in the lives of many and relieves the pressure on their budget to help with other household needs.

Thank you.