

**Sayers, Margery**

---

**From:** Jessica Carleton <jessica.carleton@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2019 9:42 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** CB14-2019

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear County Council,

I would like to write to express my support of the subject bill. Since having my daughter almost two years ago, I have come to realize what a huge problem the lack of changing tables can be. We have had to change diapers in uncomfortable, unsanitary, and unsafe ways due to this problem. Furthermore, my husband and I have both been extremely disappointed to realize how many establishments only provide changing facilities in the women's restroom. The inequality in parenting implied by this is truly disheartening. I hope that the council will work together to pass this bill as soon as possible, and I am looking forward to the positive changes it will bring to Howard County! I am pregnant with my second child and hope to see this in effect as we have many more diaper changes coming our way.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jessica Carleton  
Elkridge

## Sayers, Margery

---

**From:** Stephanie Rice <slw311@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 17, 2019 1:46 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Vote for CB14-19, Please!

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello!

As a mom of two (soon to be three), I would really appreciate if you could please vote for CB14-19. This would put more diaper changing stations in public restrooms, which would be fantastic if dad could pick up some of the slack too. Not to mention, not all families consist of a female caretaker, which means many male caretakers are left in compromising situations when it is time to change baby.

Thank you for considering this, and I hope you vote in this simple measure.

--

Stephanie Rice

**Sayers, Margery**

---

**From:** Squat For Change <squatforchange@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 10:57 AM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Cc:** Facchine, Felix  
**Subject:** Squat For Change Testimony  
**Attachments:** HowardCountyDoc.pdf

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Hello,

How are you? I hope all is well! Attached is a testimony to support the bill proposed in Howard County. Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thanks,

Donte M Palmer

The biggest reflection that I have of this experience is that I didn't think this single picture would grow to a platform with so much notice. The viral picture was then posted only to get a few laughs, likes, and comments from family and friends, not knowing days later and it would grab the attention of news outlets, major companies, other supporters, and fathers from across the world. The viral photo that my older son took has started a serious conversation and has people from around the world – including celebrities – weighing in on a topic that's often overlooked: the lack of changing tables available to fathers in men's restrooms. Changing tables in men's restrooms especially has been an issue that I faced for many years as a father. This time around was different because of what my wife said once my son showed her the picture at dinner. She noted, "I never thought about that. It's sad how us mothers don't have to create or come up with innovative ways to change our babies and fathers do. It is now clear to me that parents across the globe have encountered the same issue of changing their babies with a number of unique techniques. Fathers and mothers have been reaching out from Turkey, Spain, Africa, Canada, Argentina and many other countries to express their frustrations when it comes to the lack of changing stations in men's restrooms.

For a long time, fathers have been looked at as being secondary caretakers of our children. Taking care of children has been a job deemed necessary for women. I find that to be disheartening and in many cases very far from the truth. Fathers are more than babysitters, they are equally as mothers, the life lines of their children's care and wellbeing. For me, as the father of 3 boys, 12, 7 and 2, my role and function in their lives is essential to serve as a model and example of what they should be as a man in the world and a father to their future children. At times, society paints a false narrative of the presence and role of fathers, but in all actuality there are many men willing to step up to the plate. We just want to shred all of those stereotypical gender boxes and say, 'Let's do this together.' One of the most profound quotes that describes the aim of the platform is Wayne W. Dyer's, "Change the way you look at things and the things you look at change. This message and platform is very important because it's bringing awareness around fair and equitable rights for both moms and dads. In my opinion, it is time to shatter those gender boxes that life and society have put us in.

We strive to create a world of equity where changing your baby is a man thing too, just like moms. Representing pure, positive relationships with our children is the beauty of it all. Fathers come from all different areas of life; different cultures, different backgrounds. The one thing we can all agree on is being a father. That, to me, is pure gold. Support from legislations and corporations has to happen for us to leverage into a movement that can finally bring some change to the world when it comes to changing stations in men's restrooms. That's why Squat for Change is impactful, and we are working diligently to uplift and build the platform, so that we can keep pushing forward. The goal of this movement is to bring attention to create some positive change. In the upcoming future, I am confident that we will.

I am so honored to be apart of a wonderful and meaningful movement. #SquatForChange has stirred up some serious conversations around parenting and it's truly making a difference. Given our contribution towards raising awareness, New York has passed law. Receiving the news that you filed the proposal (CB14-2019) for consideration during the legislative session filled me with a lot of emotions. These are definitely the right steps towards a great transformation. It confirms that change can happen if you stay persistent within your own mission. So we stand on our mission by saying Squat For Change will drive initiatives that result in the installation of appropriate diaper changing stations in all designated public restrooms.

Thank you,

Donte M Palmer

**Sayers, Margery**

---

**From:** Erin Cutts <erin.m.cutts@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, April 19, 2019 7:28 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** Diaper changing station bill support

[Note: This email originated from outside of the organization. Please only click on links or attachments if you know the sender.]

Dear council members,

I live in Howard county (5409 lightning view Rd, Columbia, MD).

I am writing to show my support for the bill regarding diaper change station availability:

<https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/olis/GetFile.aspx?id=24546>

I have had some harrowing experiences in restrooms with changing stations ending with lots of poop in lots of places. Particularly frustrating is when a station isn't available for my husband because there's only a station in the women's restroom.

In fact sometimes we choose where we go out based on where we know diaper change stations are available for both of us.

I request that you support this bill.

Thanks,  
Erin