

**Sayers, Margery**

---

**From:** Lisa May <lisavm78@vt.edu>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 21, 2019 2:02 PM  
**To:** CouncilMail  
**Subject:** HCAR Comments on CR-134  
**Attachments:** HCAR Comments on CR 134.pdf

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

Good afternoon,

Attached you will find comments from the Howard County Association of REALTORS on CR 134, which will be heard before the Council this evening.

If you have any questions about our comments or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Lisa May  
HCAR



Main 410-715-1437  
Fax 410-715-1489  
Web www.hcar.org

October 21, 2019

The Honorable Christiana Mercer Rigby  
Chair, Howard County Council  
George Howard Building  
3430 Court House Drive  
Ellicott City, MD 21043

RE: CR-134, references to schools and school zones in certain advertising

Chairperson Mercer Rigby and Members of the Council,

On behalf of the Howard County Association of REALTORS® (HCAR), I write in support of omitting references to school district boundaries on real estate signage.

As REALTORS®, our national Code of Ethics obligates us to be truthful in our advertising and to avoid marketing which may mislead both our clients and members of the public. While merely listing a school boundary on a real estate sign does not itself constitute a breach of our Code or current statutes, nor does it indicate any ill-intent on the part of the agent, it does have the potential to confuse the public on the permanency of those boundary designations. This is particularly true at a time when the County is actively considering a significant redistricting plan for its public schools.

For this reason, HCAR supports the call to remove boundary information from real estate signage, both on properties for sale and on those for lease.

We thank Dr. Jones and his staff for their outreach to HCAR on this issue. REALTORS® will continue to provide our assistance on amendments to CR-134 which clarify its intent and to expand its provisions to cover all residential properties marketed to the public.

Sincerely,

Dan Lampieri, President  
Howard County Association of REALTORS®

## Sayers, Margery

---

**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2019 2:33 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: CR134

Deb Jung  
Councilmember, District 4  
Howard County Council  
3430 Court House Dr., Ellicott City, MD 21043  
410-313-2001

Sign-up for my District Update [here](#).

-----Original Message-----

From: Amy Bracciale <amy.bracciale@gmail.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, October 2, 2019 2:03 PM  
To: Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>  
Subject: CR134

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

County Council Member Jung,

Thank you for your service to our county. I am opposed to Mr. Jones' resolution CR 134. Attempts to control real estate agents and advertisement of real estate is simply not addressing the problems at hand. At this point, I'm left to wonder - WHAT'S NEXT? We pride ourselves on the success of ALL of our schools and our system as a whole. As a Maryland educator, a HCPSS parent, and a product of HCPSS myself, I find it insulting that Mr. Jones is seeking to diminish the fact that HCPSS and the individual schools (all of which have something special and unique to offer homeowners) are considered national leaders in education. Working with HCPSS to meet the needs of ALL students in our county and bridging the gaps - that's what is important and useful! This is all about control, control, control. Let's problem solve instead. Recently it seems to be lost that our diversity is a beautiful thing. Of course we seek to raise the achievement for all students who need additional support, but it is also ok (and frankly amazing) that each of our schools have a unique dynamic and all are so successful! Pushing the "cookie cutter" mentality is so degrading to our diverse communities - our diversity is beautiful because it exists! It exists because Howard County has something to offer for everyone! And it's ok for a family to look for that special something when hunting for a home in which to raise a family. Please do not support this resolution. Thank you.

Amy Crouch

Sent from my iPhone

## Sayers, Margery

---

**From:** Jung, Deb  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2019 2:32 PM  
**To:** Sayers, Margery  
**Subject:** FW: Council Resolution 134-2019 and CR 112

**Deb Jung**  
**Councilmember, District 4**  
**Howard County Council**  
**3430 Court House Dr., Ellicott City, MD 21043**  
**410-313-2001**

Sign-up for my District Update [here](#).

---

**From:** Peter F. Chew <pfchew@prospera-us.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 17, 2019 10:04 AM  
**To:** Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Cc:** Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>; Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>  
**Subject:** Council Resolution 134-2019 and CR 112

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

Mr. Jones,

You have gone too far with this hijacking of the redistricting plan and CR112. Now you are trying to overstep your authority and responsibility with this illegal and illegitimate resolution you are introducing to restrict the notification of housing districts for home sales.

What are you afraid of? Please listen to my testimony in the October 14<sup>th</sup> BOE Hearing on the proposed redistricting plan by the Superintendent. I have attached a copy of my testimony if you care to read.

Mr. Jones, what you know is true and want to somehow illegally change, is that in America, whether we like it or not, housing prices are demand driven by schools and school districts. Parents that understand that education is one of the important keys to success in life seek out the best performing schools and school districts for their families. This is not driven by racism or by a desire to be separated from specific groups of people. Rather, it is purely driven by a desire to be around other families that understand this importance of education and are willing to invest their money, their time and even work commutes. It is driven by desire to ensure their children are surrounded by other children whose parents have the same goals and priorities. These children do homework, sports, music, boy & girl scouts after school, and as with my children, often have their "free play" curtailed to focus on their education.

Yes, most of us have been blessed and have more means than those in your district. But this is not because it was given to us, but because our parents and our own desire for a better life have given us the ambition, the strength and the courage to make the sacrifices for our families.



In 2009, my wife (Chinese American with a PhD in Chemistry) and I moved from Baltimore City to Prince Georges County because we could not afford a home in the Centennial or River Hill school districts that we desired. We had a plan that we would start a family, work hard and save our money so we could move to Howard County in 5 years when the children would be ready for school. In 2011, we made a decision to start our own consulting business...my daughter was 10 months old, 3 days prior, we found out my wife was pregnant with our son....we had less than \$7,000.00 in our checking and savings account, my wife had quit her job in the Fall of 2009 to focus on starting our family and we were spending more money each month than we were making with my salary.

I often worked 7 days a week, both days and nights. We saved our money. We did not take vacations. Yes, we were blessed as opportunities came with the business and in 2015 we bought our house in the River Hill school district. But almost immediately after we moved in, our business took a severe downturn. Through 2016, we went into debt, not making enough money most months to pay our bills. We considered selling our house, but chose to borrow money to stay because we knew it would be best for our kids. Finally, and slowly, in 2017, we started to turn things around with the business....but it is a constant effort.

I am white, my wife is not. She is also a minority, Asian....I think you forget that there are other minorities than just African Americans / Blacks. We are not privileged and I assure you, no one has given us anything. I had to pay for my own college as my parents had 4 children and struggled to pay their bills most months.

We paid a premium for our house because it is in the River Hill District. I wish I did not have to do that, but this is America. If you want to increase your own home value, have the Council and the Superintendent focus on providing additional resources to schools and students in need that live in the underperforming schools. Do not play politics with our children and try to swap them around to different schools.

As an elected official, stop giving lip service to problems...stop these ridiculous snake oil cures for the issues our children face. Do your job, even when it is difficult...or get another job.

Council Resolution 134-2019 –Introduced by Opel Jones -A RESOLUTION calling on those offering homes for sale in Howard County to omit references to schools and school zones in certain advertising.

Peter Chew  
Vice President



(410) 591 – 6309 O  
(410) 598 – 3583 C