

CR 118-2021

Sayers, Margery

From: Brad Slater <brad_slater@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 7:53 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: No to two candidates: Taj and Haider

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

HOCO Council,

I am writing to ask you to vote AGAINST:

117-2021 to appoint Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees, AND

AGAINST 118-2021 to appoint Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission.

Thank you
Brad Slater
Ellicott City

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Sayers, Margery

From: Maura Dunnigan <maurainmd@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 28, 2021 7:26 AM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Resolution Vote of Support

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

Dear Howard County Council Members,

I am writing to voice my enthusiastic support for Council Resolution 117 and Council Resolution 118. I cannot think of two more qualified, dedicated, and deserving candidates to fill these roles. Certainly the nominating committees did a vigorous job vetting and understood the strengths and talents that Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah bring to the table. I have known both women for almost ten years and consider them both to be role models for myself and my children. They are single moms who manage to bring out the best in their families, friends, and community. Sabina and Ainy both work tirelessly for the common good- and always consider the impact on those whose voices are marginalized. They are brilliant, selfless, kind, and thoughtful. They also share another common trait- they are both incredibly strong.

Sadly, their strengths seem to be a target for some in our community who seek to tear these women down. One smear campaign accused Sabina of being Muslim Centric because she suggested being more inclusive at community events. I was involved directly in that episode, as I was friendly with the person trying to get her new organization off the ground and working to coordinate a movie night- sounds amazing and community building right! However she called me upset at the suggestion to show more inclusive movies- perhaps 2/4 being more intentionally representative and asked me to talk to Sabina. I was confused as the whole thing seemed great- a gathering, movies that had better representation than the typical white/western perspective, and now the suggestion of including even more diversity in the programming. So if this was the big beef- I wasn't understanding it then and I don't understand it now.

I will not speculate as to why these women are being targeted by a coordinated campaign to discredit them. I can only say what I have personally witnessed and interacted with since the day I met Sabina- she has consistently been a woman of the highest integrity, puts others before herself, and is gifted in so many arenas- from education policy to anti-bias and racism work.

The Library Board chose Sabina as their nomination of choice- no one would compare to her level of intellect and have the depth and breadth of experience to align with the libraries own mission of becoming effective users of ideas and information. I'm sure you have her resume- it is extensive and only taps the surface of her expertise and life experiences that make her an ideal candidate.

Ainy is brilliant, focused, and also has the background to thrive in any position. I am currently in a program that Ainy had also been a part of called the Justice Leaders Fellowship through ICJS. It asks a year long commitment to research, write, and collaborate with community leaders across the region to look at issues impacting our communities and come together to solve complex problems. Her resume, life experiences, and who she is as a human speak for themselves. Spend any amount of time with Ainy and you cannot help but understand that she is uber-competent in all she does. She understands commitment, delving deep into issues from all sides, and is the epitome of a principled professional. I respect Ainy and Sabina because of their work. I call them friend for who they are. Good people.

We all benefit from the skills, talents, and moral compass of these women. Please recognize that gift and vote to confirm them through the Resolutions today. Our community on the whole will be a much better place for it.

Sincerely,
Maura Dunnigan

4808 Woodshire Garth
Ellicott City, MD 21043

Sayers, Margery

From: Lynne Bassler <lynne.bassler@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 10:00 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote NO to 117-2021 & 118-2021

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

Members of the Council.

Please vote against 117-2021 to appoint Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees, AND vote against 118-2021 to appoint Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission neither are positive representatives of ALL the people of Howard County.

Thank you for listening.

Barbara Bassler
7355 Hallmark Rd
Clarksville, MD 21029

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

Sayers, Margery

From: Jessica Mahajan <jessica.mahajan@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 9:00 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Appointments

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

I support the appointments of Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah. Both women are valuable members of our community working to make HoCo a better place for all residents, especially those in underserved communities.

Jessica Mahajan
Columbia resident

Sayers, Margery

From: Lisa Tye Wright <lisatyewright@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 7:16 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Oppose Council Resolutions 117-2021 and 118-2021

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

Hello Council Members,

I am urging you to vote NO to the prospective appointment of Sabina Taj (117-2021) to the Board of Library Trustees, and NO to the prospective appointment of Ainy Haider-Shah (118-2021) to the Compensation Review Commission.

Those appointed to Howard County boards and commissions should be individuals with a high level of integrity and professionalism, be able to unify a community- not divide them, and have a good track record of serving all citizens of the county, not just the ones who agree with them.

Neither of these prospective appointees meet this level of standards. We, the citizens of Howard County, deserve better. Please vote NO to Council Resolutions 117-2021, 118-2021.

Thank you,
Lisa Wright

Sayers, Margery

From: Katja Fort Rhoden <katjafort@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 6:21 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Approve Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah.

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

Dear Howard County Council:

I hope this email finds each of you and yours doing well. I thank you for your work during these unprecedented times in our community.


Please approve the appointments of Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah.

I am on vacation, during my lazy morning scan of social media I read a few unfortunate, erroneous, and malicious letters about Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah that were recently sent to the Council. Very ugly attacks on two people that truly care about our community.

For the benefit of our citizens, please do not let these few false and inappropriate letters impact your vote; they are not reflective of the board candidates or public opinion.

Please approve the appointments of Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah.

Thank you
Katja

Katja Fort Rhoden
INOVA Double Lung Transplant Recipient 
Be A Donor
<https://www.organdonor.gov>

“Just when the caterpillar thought her life was over, she became a butterfly”

Sayers, Margery

From: Buffy Beaudoin-Schwartz <buffybschwartz@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 6:22 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: CR-117, CR-118

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

Good Evening,

I am emailing to encourage the Council to vote YES on CR-117: the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Library Board of Trustees, and CR-118: the appointment of the 7-member Compensation Review Commission including Ainy Haider-Shah.

I have known and worked with Sabina for almost 20 years in a variety of settings and know her to be a caring, kind, thoughtful, smart and committed member of our community, who has spent countless hours working to make Howard County better. And, I've volunteered with Ainy and have watched her devote countless hours assisting others and supporting causes she believes in.

Both Sabina and Ainy are wonderful examples of strong, professional women and committed public servants. We are fortunate to have such dedicated, accomplished women willing to serve our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Buffy Beaudoin-Schwartz

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Sayers, Margery

From: Anjula Batra <anjulab4@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 5:53 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Please vote yes on CR117 and 118

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

I am writing to urge the Council to vote YES on CR-117 (Appointment of Ms. Taj to the Library Board of Trustees) and CR-118 (Appointment of 7-member Compensation Review Commission including Ms. Haider-Shah.)

We are so lucky to have such dedicated, accomplished women willing to serve our community. I am writing as a citizen of Howard County and as an Indian American who fully supports these appointments. I find the recent vilification of Ms. Taj on social media appalling, and I have watched her work tirelessly on issues of equity and inclusion in the community for years.

Thanks so much.

Anjula Batra

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Anjula Batra
anjulab4@gmail.com

Sayers, Margery

From: Tim & Deb Lattimer <lattimertp@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 27, 2021 4:21 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Support for appointments of Sabina Taj & Ainy Haider-Shah

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

Dear Council Members:

We believe Sabina Taj and Ainy Haider-Shah are dedicated to serving the public with integrity, intelligence, and compassion. Knowing them to be strong proponents for building community, we are dismayed at the attacks directed at them by those who appear to begrudge Sabina's & Any's strong advocacy for equity and inclusion. Howard County must show zero tolerance for hate. We hope the Council refuses to be intimidated by the loud voices of HoCo's haters and we respectfully urge that you approve CR 117-2021 to appoint Ms. Taj to the Board of Library Trustees and CR 118-2021 to appoint Ms. Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission.

Thanks very much and best regards, Tim and Debi Lattimer

Residents of Council District 2
Long Reach Village, Columbia, MD