



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE
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March 15, 2012

The Honorable Mary Kay Sigaty
Chairperson, Howard County Council
3430 Courthouse Drive
Ellicott City, Maryland 21043

Dear Chairperson Sigaty:

In accordance with Section 209(g) of the Howard County Charter, I intend to return County Council Bill 57-2011 unsigned on Monday, March 19, 2012.

After much consideration, I have determined that the Bill, amended and adopted by a narrow margin, does not improve upon the map produced and recommended last year by the Councilmanic Redistricting Commission. While members of the County Council made strong arguments for several different district boundary alignments, the map presented by the bi-partisan Commission, vetted through three public hearings and five work sessions, is better for Howard County as a whole.

Although there was some opposition to the Councilmanic Redistricting Commission's map, the public was significantly engaged in the process, and I believe the Commission's map ensures that councilmanic district boundaries are fair and equitable for all of Howard County.

I want to thank you and the other members of the County Council for your work on this legislation. I appreciate the efforts you have made throughout this important dialogue.

Sincerely,

Ken Ulman
Howard County Executive

cc: The Honorable Courtney Watson, Vice-Chair
The Honorable Dr. Calvin Ball, Member
The Honorable Greg Fox, Member
The Honorable Jen Terrasa, Member
Steve LeGendre, Council Administrator