

August 30, 2021

TO: County Executive Calvin Ball

County Council Members

- Opel Jones
- Deb Jung
- Christiana Mercer Rigby
- Elizabeth Walsh
- David Yungmann

HCLS President & CEO Tonya Aikens

HCLS Board of Trustees

- Ankur Delal
- Phillip Dodge
- Robert Metz
- Thomas Munns
- Louise Riemer
- Bruce Rothschild

FROM: Jean F. Moon

11117 Wood Elves Way
Columbia, MD 21044

RE: Support for the candidacy of Sabina Taj for Trustee, Howard County Library System

As a long time member of the Howard County community who has been involved with local businesses, nonprofit groups and other institutions, **I am writing in support of Sabina Taj's candidacy for Trustee of the Howard County Library System.**

I have known Sabina for more than 15 years and have watched her efforts on behalf of the people and organizations of Howard County.

- It is hard to imagine a more intelligent, hard-working volunteer, advocate and leader than Sabina.

- Her commitment to public education aligns with the Howard County Library's focus.
- Her thoughtful analytical skills and problem-solving aptitude is of benefit to whatever group with which she is associated.
- Her connections are especially welcome now as our county, like others, comes to terms with issues of diversity, inclusion and equity in all our institutions.
- She understands and respects the opportunities presented by the HCLS.
- She wants to serve this important institution and the people of Howard County.

I strongly support Sabina Taj's candidacy for Trustee of the Howard County Library System and encourage your vote in her favor. Thank you for your consideration.

Sayers, Margery

From: Niti Srivastava <promotingdei@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 28, 2021 12:08 PM
To: CouncilMail
Subject: Vote NO to Sabina Taj - Council Resolution 117-2021

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am the Executive Director of the Indian Cultural Association of Howard County (ICA) and a longtime resident of Howard County. My thoughts below are echoed by members of our community. I was asked to write to you by an overwhelming number of people in our community, out of an outpouring, from a feeling of helplessness and a tremendous sense of vulnerability, and fear for the future of our children and the community we live in. People are fearful of raising an objection. In speaking out, they are branded Islamophobic, misogynist, racist or other.

I am compelled to write you and urge you to reject Ms. Sabina Taj's nomination to the Howard County Library System's (HCLS) Board of Trustees. Taj's appointment to the HCLS Board will adversely impact Howard County residents and will undermine the County's goals of diversity and inclusion.

Ms. Taj's tenure at the Board of Education was riddled with controversy and questionable conduct. She lacks the support of the community and is not suitable for this position. Many in the community are alarmed by her involvement with the Rouse project and are dismayed that Ms. Taj is being considered for a position that would significantly impact all Howard County residents.

Ms. Taj held public office. She has a record. She is answerable for her actions and cannot scream Islamophobia or misogyny, or racism or whatever, every time she is called out for her actions. These cannot be the alternates to thoughtful debate and inquiry. Questions related to ethics violations have been raised by members of our community. I believe Ms. Taj should address these publicly instead of having her political allies, including organizations such as CAIR (Council on American Islamic Relations), a group known to have terror ties, proclaim victimhood on her behalf.

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/fbi-cuts-ties-with-cair-following-terror-financing-trial>

Even more troubling is Ms. Sabina Taj's HINDUPHOBIA which was on full display when she wanted the Howard County Muslim Council to pick HALF of the movies the Indian Cultural Association was showing during movie night(s) at the Clarksville Commons. Her demands were preposterous and completely inappropriate. It does however give us a window into her thought processes and her inclinations.

ICA chose movies without consideration of race or religion. Taj, a public official, attempted to exercise undue influence on a public charity to advance her personal, 'religious activist' agenda.

We are seeing these seeds of extremism play out in the world today. Her outlook stokes racial division and promotes religious intolerance. It disqualifies her from any public office in this or any County in the United States. Ms. Sabina Taj's nomination must be withdrawn.

I am alarmed that Sabina Taj runs to the Muslim Council before watching a BOLLYWOOD MOVIE. If we are to consult or seek the approval of the Muslim Council for something as inane as movies, I suspect that every action/decision of *Ms. Taj will be a proxy vote for the Muslim Council*. Additionally, if this is the standard we are to follow, we must ensure that all faiths are represented on the HCLS Board of Trustees. We must make sure that we are treating ALL religions equally and are INCLUSIVE. If the County is to proceed with this candidate, I would recommend making room (additional seats) for representatives of the Christian, Jew, Hindu, Sikh, Jain, Buddhist, Parsi, Baha'i faiths, as well as atheists & agnostics, to be representative of the people you serve.

I strongly recommend that in light of Ms. Sabina Taj's religious activism, her ties to the Howard County Muslim Council be examined thoroughly. Taj's prior votes, while she was a Member of the Board of Education at the Howard County Public Schools, must also be scrutinized. Ms. Taj's email and phone records will reveal this information. As a Board of Education member, Ms. Taj had the duty to watch for the interest of every child, not just that of one single, religious group.

Regarding the claims made by Ms. Taj's supporters that she was just trying to be inclusive, let me put it in plain words. *Ms. Taj did not care for the inclusion of the other religious communities – Hindus, Christians, Jews, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Baha'is, Parsis, etc. from this exercise in inclusivity*. Apparently, Ms. Sabina Taj's inclusivity doctrine begins and ends with Muslims. Taj wants half the proverbial "pie" for the Muslims, at the expense of all others. She seeks to disproportionately advance the Muslim cause. *Ms. Taj is divisive and Muslim-centric, to the detriment of all other religious groups* in Howard County.

Taj's affiliations, prior actions, and comments are divisive; Her Muslim-centric outlook **DISQUALIFIES** her from serving on this sacred institution. It is apparent that she cannot fulfill her duties impartially, without prejudice. If Ms. Taj is appointed, it will be disastrous for Howard County. Her appointment runs the risk of undermining the entire library system and its efforts to be inclusive.

Indian Americans are the largest immigrant minority in Howard County, and we reject this polarizing, Hinduphobic candidate. **Howard County** must reject divisions along religious lines or risk its slide toward **becoming a theocracy**. As a public servant, championing only one religion (her own), at the expense of all others, is grossly unethical, extremist, and **fundamentally un-American**. Sabina Taj is free to advocate for the Muslim Council as a private citizen, but such people should never be entrusted with public office.

I strongly urge you to REJECT this candidate and nominate someone who will be INCLUSIVE and consider the wellbeing of the ALL Howard County residents.

Sincerely,

Dr. Niti Srivastava
Ellicott City, MD

Sayers, Margery

From: uzma@shafi.org
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 8:11 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong support for the appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. While Ms. Taj's impressive paper record speaks for itself, she also has a meaningful history of local involvement and advocacy for HCPSS students and other causes important to community members including myself.

I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.") and to discuss with your Council colleagues to reach a majority decision of "yes" on this matter.

The Howard County Library System is too precious to allow a group of reactionary, anti-education, far-right activists to derail a critical appointment by stoking fear and false outrage against a valued member of our community.

Thank you,
Uzma Shafi

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Aisha ~~~ <aishaleos@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 7:50 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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Dear Council-members,

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Thank you,
Sincerely
Aisha malik

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Sajida Anwar <anwrnaz@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2021 12:13 AM
To: Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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null

Sayers, Margery

From: Arifa Sattar <arifasattar@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:31 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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Thank you,

Arifa Sattar

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Jennifer Winters <jenniferwinters56@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 8:15 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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

Dear Councilmembers,

As a parent, public school teacher, and Howard County citizen, I am reaching out to share my support for the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees.

I have come to know Sabina as a neighbor, fellow educator, and friend. Sabina works tirelessly to make Howard County the best place to live, work, and learn in Maryland, and I am absolutely confident that she will be an incredible asset to the HCLS Board of Trustees. Sabina is a voice for equity and inclusiveness, and her compassion and intelligence are needed right now in Howard County.

I encourage you all to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees"). Leaders like Sabina are necessary if we want to honor Howard County's devotion to diversity and equity.

With deepest respect,

Jennifer Winters
10224 Bristol Channel
Ellicott City, MD 21042
954-554-2477

Sayers, Margery

From: Amal Agabein <amagabein@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 6:57 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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

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While Ms. Taj's impressive paper record speaks for itself, she also has a meaningful history of local involvement and advocacy for HCPSS students and other causes important to community members including myself.

I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.") and to discuss with your Council colleagues to reach a majority decision of "yes" on this matter.

The Howard County Library System is too precious to allow a group of reactionary, anti-education, far-right activists to derail a critical appointment by stoking fear and false outrage against a valued member of our community.

Thank you,
Amal Agabein

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Monica Ennaciri <monica.ennaciri@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 6:39 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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The Howard County Library System is too precious to allow a group of reactionary, anti-education, far-right activists to derail a critical appointment by stoking fear and false outrage against a valued member of our community. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Monica Ennaciri
6461 Empty Song Rd
Columbia MD 21044

Sayers, Margery

From: Jean Silver-Isenstadt <jeansi@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 6:08 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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Thank you,
Jean Silver-Isenstadt

Testimony by Hiruy Hadgu

08/24/2021

CR111-2021, CR117-2021, and CR118-2021

A few years ago, a member of the Columbia Democratic Club, Mr. Bob Ford was appointed to the Human Rights Commission. He went on to serve as the Chair of this Commission in 2020. During his tenure as Chair, Mr. Ford declined to stand for undocumented immigrants who were detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) at the County's detention center. Instead of standing with the immigration advocates, he covered for the County Executive's incomprehensible resistance to cancel the contract. Even though Mr. Ford finally voted to cancel the contract, it was too late. The fate of the contract was sealed after a state-level bill was passed to cancel all contracts in Maryland.

Why is this important?

The County Council is currently considering four political appointments put forward by the County Executive and Councilmember Rigby. These political appointments are either a reward for creating the toxic political culture in the County, for participating in the disruption of the Columbia Democratic Club's meetings when it actively engaged in calling out the County Executive's terrible misdeeds, or simply a plan to put in place the right people in the right positions to help advance a developer interest.

I urge the county council to vote no on these appointments as I am not confident it is in the public interest. Much like the unfortunate events at the Human Rights Commission, vulnerable members of the public will take a back seat in the interests of advancing party of political goals.

CR111-2021: I oppose the appointment of Reverend Regina M. Clay to the Howard County Local Children's Board.

The Board states that "[r]ecently, The Board identified priorities and designed strategies to help ensure Howard County is a place where all children can thrive."

The Board goes on to identify the priorities as follows:

- Affordable and Quality Education and Training
- Increase Inclusiveness, Awareness and Coordination of Resources to Meet the Needs of Each Community
- Access to Affordable and Quality Behavioral Health Care

I fail to see how Reverend Clay can successfully discharge the priorities identified by the Board. Reverend Clay is a founding member of The Rouse Project, a dark-money developer-funded group, which was established to take over the Columbia Association by replacing existing CA Board of Directors with candidates who would support Howard Hughes Corporation's quest to "control cities." This group cynically used the benevolent goals of diversity and equity to rile up the residents of Columbia, even though it had a very transparent agenda of using public

property and tax dollars for private gain thereby creating inequity and affecting the very goals of the Local Children's Board.

Someone who works with such a group should not be in such an important position. I urge you to vote no on this appointment.

CR117-2021: I oppose the appointment of Ms. Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees.

Ms. Taj's appointment will benefit Howard Hughes Corporation in its quest to "control cities." Since her election to the Board of Education, Ms. Taj has openly collaborated with developers to advance their interests.

As BOE member, Ms. Taj used her platform to advance the development industry's agenda. One such event was hosted by an entity called Center Maryland, a developer-funded lobbying and PR group that works closely with the Democratic establishment.

The development industry in Howard County has played a major role for the inequities and lack of affordable housing in Howard County. Instead of standing with community members and condemning their actions, Ms. Taj used her platform to advance their interests by appearing as a featured speaker at an event hosted by Center Maryland and the Maryland Building Industry Association in a "conference" on educational equity and housing affordability. A clear misalignment of interests and dereliction of responsibility.

More recently, she was the founding member of The Rouse Project, a dark-money group, established for the express purpose of controlling the Columbia Association Board. At the time, community leaders such as former County Executive Liz Bobo shared their concerns and raised alarms by calling out the not-so-benevolent goals of The Rouse Project and urging the public to reject them.

It is no secret that TRP was funded by Howard Hughes Corporation. However, the entity has yet to come clean about its sources of funds.

Given that Ms. Taj chose to participate and lend her platform to an entity that has shown clear disdain to transparency, I am troubled that she is under consideration for a public position where transparency and a track-record of advancing the public interest are a prerequisite.

This appointment is a choice made by Howard Hughes Corporation to advance the interests of Howard Hughes Corporation.

Please vote no on this appointment.

CR118-2021: I oppose the appointments of Mr. Michael Butera and Ms. Ainy Haider-Shah to the Compensation Review Commission.

As stated, Mr. Butera's appointment appears to be some sort of a reward for playing a major and consequential role in the disruption of the Columbia Democratic Club meetings. While Mr. Butera appeared conciliatory and spoke about fiduciary responsibility at the Club meetings he did not appear interested to learn more about the Club Treasurer's lack of fiduciary responsibility.

There did not appear to be any impartiality in his behavior and he succeeded along with Reverend Clay in shutting down the Club's attempt to get to the bottom of the inconsistencies observed by some of the Club officers in the Club's finances. I am concerned that an appointment put forward to reward such behavior does not serve the public interest.

In a recent statement, Councilmember Rigby stated that she nominated Ms. Ainy Haider-Shah because she is a "strong advocate for pay equity in the workplace, she has experience working in multiple governmental agencies, and she has experience in human resources and staffing." She goes on to say, "[m]y goal was to nominate someone who would approach the Commission with a lens of pay equity and someone who has work experience in both HR and in government."

While I appreciate all the "hot-button" keywords that rile people up in Councilmember Rigby's statement, such as "equity", Ms. Haider-Shah has played a key role in the toxic rhetoric that often grips the county. She often engages in smears and participates in appalling levels of cyber-bullying in order to silence critics of the Democratic Establishment.

Many know that I am a vocal critic of the developer influence in the county's politics and the impact on equity. I am okay being the target of any criticisms including the vicious ones lodged by Ms. Shah. However, I am not okay with any attempts to silence me by putting my family in danger by disclosing my address.

Ms. Haider-Shah along with other members of the Howard County Democratic Party were part of such an effort after I published a report that raised concerns about The Rouse Project's plans to siphon taxpayer dollars on behalf of Howard Hughes Corporation. Reverend Regina Clay and Ms. Taj, who are nominated to the Local Children's Board and the Library System Board of Trustees, respectively are members of The Rouse Project.

It is unfortunate that Councilmember Rigby thought someone who engages in cyber-bullying and intimidation tactics is appropriate for this appointment. I hope the rest of the county council does not agree.

Please vote no on this appointment.

Sayers, Margery

From: Hena Rahman <hayub@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 3:42 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.") and to discuss with your Council colleagues to reach a majority decision of "yes" on this matter.

The Howard County Library System is too precious to allow a group of reactionary, anti-education, far-right activists to derail a critical appointment by stoking fear and false outrage against a valued member of our community.

Thank you,
Hena Rahman

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Razea Desai <razeadesai@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 2:17 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you,
[Insert your name here]

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: Mavis Ellis <mavisellis@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 12:24 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you,
Mavis Ellis, Past Chair
Howard County Board of Education

Sayers, Margery

From: Robert Hopps <robert.hopps@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 12:06 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
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Thank you,
[Insert your name here]

Zoha Hopps
Keller Williams Realty Services
2424 N Federal Hwy, Suite 150
Boca Raton, FL 33431
Cell: 425-344-2708
Email: zzhopps@gmail.com
Website: zzhopps.kw.com
Each office is independently owned and operated

Sayers, Margery

From: Afia Khan <agulzari@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:38 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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Thank you,
Afia Khan

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: ferhad desai <ferhad.desai@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:17 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

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Thank you,
Ferhad Desai

Sayers, Margery

From: Zahir Adil <zahir_adil@yahoo.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 11:06 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
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The Howard County Library System is too precious to allow a group of reactionary, anti-education, far-right activists inspired by Islamophobic zeal, to derail a critical appointment by stoking fear and false outrage against a valued member of our community.

Thank you,
Zahir Adil
Billerica MA
Save India From Fascism

+++++

Linux! The heart of them all...

Ubuntu, Mint, SuSE, Debian, RedHat, Fedora, Android, Chromebook

Full-feature Office suites: www.LibreOffice.org www.OpenOffice.org

Sayers, Margery

From: Baker, Kevin
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 5:52 PM
To: Sayers, Margery
Subject: FW: CONFIRM Sabina Taj for Library System Board of Trustees

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

For CR117.

From: Brian Kramer <bk5508@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 5:45 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth <ewalsh@howardcountymd.gov>; Jones, Opel <ojones@howardcountymd.gov>; Rigby, Christiana <crigby@howardcountymd.gov>; Jung, Deb <djung@howardcountymd.gov>; Yungmann, David <dyungmann@howardcountymd.gov>
Subject: CONFIRM Sabina Taj for Library System Board of Trustees

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my support for the appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. I've known Sabina as a fierce advocate for students in Howard County, and her history of advocacy within the HCPSS system speaks for itself. It'd be incredibly difficult to find a more qualified candidate for this position.

Sabina has always worked hard to educate students in Howard County, and her appointment to the Board of Trustees will allow her to continue this advocacy and strengthen a key public good: public libraries. As a fellow educator, I recognize the importance of strong public libraries in teaching literacy to all students everywhere.

I urge every Councilmember to vote for Resolution 117-2021 to confirm Sabina Taj to the Library System Board of Trustees.

Thank you,
Brian Kramer

Sayers, Margery

From: Amal Hussain <arifhussain6@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 3:46 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David;
CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

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

Dear Councilmembers,

I am writing to express my strong support for the appointment of former Board of Education member Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. While Ms. Taj's impressive paper record speaks for itself, she also has a meaningful history of local involvement and advocacy for HCPSS students and other causes important to community members including myself.

I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees.") and to discuss with your Council colleagues to reach a majority decision of "yes" on this matter.

The Howard County Library System is too precious to allow a group of reactionary, anti-education, far-right activists to derail a critical appointment by stoking fear and false outrage against a valued member of our community.

Thank you,
[Insert your name here]

Sent from my iPhone

Sayers, Margery

From: R Susan Grossman <rabbiima@verizon.net>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 1:36 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Cc: Rabbi G
Subject: Fw: Support for Library System Trustee Vote

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

EWalsh@howardcountymd.gov,

OJones@howardcountymd.gov,

CRigby@howardcountymd.gov,

DJung@howardcountymd.gov,

DYungmann@howardcountymd.gov,

councilmail@howardcountymd.gov

Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 for Sabina Taj

Dear Councilmember,

As a proud resident of Howard County, who cherishes diversity as our strength, and the reason many move and prefer to live in Howard County, I am writing to share my support for Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj's experience in education, leadership, and commitment to serving the people of Howard County has been demonstrated through her extensive work in various educational settings. Her commitment to equity helped the Howard County Public School System actualize their policy for educational equity, and codify policies and practices to ensure every student is given the opportunity to attain their goals towards their future. In addition, Ms. Taj's work at the Howard County Community College, and passion for strengthening community bonds will further support the HCLS mission to deliver high-quality education for all. Her experience in working with different community groups, individuals, and students will be valuable to the HCLS third pillar, Instructive & Enlightening Experiences, to enhance and further the library's initiatives. For all of the stated reasons, I encourage the county council to approve Ms. Taj's appointment, I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021.

I could be reached via email, if you need to discuss this further.

Name:

Address:

Sayers, Margery

From: kamran abro <abrokamran@hotmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 1:03 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb;
dyoungmann@howardcountymd.gov; CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 for Sabrina Taj

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

Dear Councilmember,

As a proud resident of Howard County, who cherishes diversity as our strength, and the reason many move and prefer to live in Howard County, I am writing to share my support for Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj's experience in education, leadership, and commitment to serving the people of Howard County has been demonstrated through her extensive work in various educational settings. Her commitment to equity helped the Howard County Public School System actualize their policy for educational equity, and codify policies and practices to ensure every student is given the opportunity to attain their goals towards their future. In addition, Ms. Taj's work at the Howard County Community College, and passion for strengthening community bonds will further support the HCLS mission to deliver high-quality education for all. Her experience in working with different community groups, individuals, and students will be valuable to the HCLS third pillar, Instructive & Enlightening Experiences, to enhance and further the library's initiatives. For all of the stated reasons, I encourage the county council to approve Ms. Taj's appointment, I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021.

I could be reached via email, if you need to discuss this further.

Dr. Kamran Abro
11537 Manorstone Ln
Columbia MD 21044

Sayers, Margery

From: Nancy Carlsen <nancy.carlsen@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 12:17 PM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021

[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 am writing to support the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Howard County Library Board of Trustees.

Ms. Taj's experience in education, leadership, and commitment to serving the people of Howard County has been demonstrated through her commendable work in various educational settings. Her commitment to equity helped the Howard County Public School System actualize their policy for educational equity, and codify policies and practices to ensure every student is given the opportunity to attain their goals toward their future.

Ms. Taj's work at the Howard County Community College, and passion for strengthening community relationships will further support the HCLS mission to deliver high-quality public education for all. Her intelligence, integrity, and experience in working with different community groups, individuals, and students will be valuable to HCLS.

Frankly, after the unfounded, cruel, and bitter criticism of Ms. Taj that was cowardly taken to a personal level while serving on the Board of Education, she is to be commended for stepping forward to once again serve our community.

I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 ("A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Sabina Taj to the Board of Library Trustees."). I further urge you to discuss with your Council colleagues and reach a majority decision to appoint her to the HCLS Board.

Besides our community being the better for Ms. Taj's appointment, a majority decision will send a message that our elected leadership will not accept or be swayed by fear-baiting reactionaries.

Regards,
Nancy Carlsen
Howard County Resident, D3

Sayers, Margery

From: Talaat E. Shehata <tshehata@umd.edu>
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2021 11:54 AM
To: Walsh, Elizabeth; Jones, Opel; Rigby, Christiana; Jung, Deb; Yungmann, David; CouncilMail
Cc: Talaat E. Shehata
Subject: Vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021 for Sabina Taj

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

Dear Councilmember,

*As a proud resident of Howard County, who cherishes diversity as our strength, and the reason many move and prefer to live in Howard County, I am writing to share my support for **Sabina Taj** to the Howard County Library System Board of Trustees. Ms. Taj's experience in education, leadership, and commitment to serving the people of Howard County has been demonstrated through her extensive work in various educational settings. Her commitment to equity helped the Howard County Public School System actualize their policy for educational equity, and codify policies and practices to ensure every student is given the opportunity to attain their goals towards their future. In addition, Ms. Taj's work at the Howard County Community College, and passion for strengthening community bonds will further support the HCLS mission to deliver high-quality education for all. Her experience in working with different community groups, individuals, and students will be valuable to the HCLS third pillar, Instructive & Enlightening Experiences, to enhance and further the library's initiatives. **For all of the stated reasons, I encourage the county council to approve Ms. Taj's appointment, I urge you to vote YES on Council Resolution 117-2021.***

Thank you.

I could be reached via email, if you need to discuss this further.

Name: Dr. Talaat Shehata, University of Maryland
Address: 7205 Fawn Crossing Dr., Clarksville, MD
Email: tshehata@umd.edu
Phone: 301-633-2520