

Support for CB 17-2015

Maureen Harris [executivedirector@uucolumbia.net]

Sent: Monday, July 06, 2015 2:20 PM

To: CouncilMail

Attachments: Support for CB 17-2015.pdf (34 KB)

Attached please find a letter in support of CB 17-2015.

Thank you,
Maureen Harris

Maureen Harris
Executive Director
Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia
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410-381-0097



The Rev. Paige Getty, Senior Minister
The Rev. Kären Rasmussen, Assistant Minister
Maureen Harris, Executive Director
Carla Miller, Director of Religious Education
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July 6, 2015

Dear Howard County Council Members,

On behalf of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Columbia, I urge you to support CB 17-2015.

Throughout history, Unitarian Universalists (UUs) have advocated tirelessly for social justice and human rights. Anti-slavery, women's suffrage, civil rights, anti-war, peace, economic justice, health, and environmental justice movements have all seen UUs at the forefront. This tradition of advocating for social justice continues in our 450-member congregation today.

The legislation before you is simple but important. It increases access to healthy food and drinks on public property, making them more available, accessible, and affordable. County employees, visitors to county property, and children who participate in county programs will now be able to choose healthy options – options that they do not currently have. And those who select healthier drinks will get a discount, making the healthier choice more affordable.

Given that chronic diseases like diabetes, heart disease, cancer, stroke, and obesity are all caused in part by poor nutrition, ensuring a better food and drink environment on public property is an important initial change in our community.

Unitarian Universalists value good health and good policy. This bill will promote good health in a measured and reasonable way. That's why our congregation supports this bill and urges a favorable vote.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maureen Harris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maureen Harris
Executive Director