

I oppose CB 17-2015 for the following reasons:

Jeff (Darwood) 410-336-4226

1. If you think you can legislate human nature – think again. People will eat sweets whether or not you restrict them at your measly county functions. County employees will start bringing their own Fritos and candy bars...
2. When government gets bigger the people get smaller.
3. The council needs to be more niggardly with their proposed legislation – less regulation is BETTER which means MORE liberty MORE freedom for your bosses - WE The People...
4. The author of this Bill – Calvin Ball likes to misquote statistics to support his asinine thinking. He cites the CDC - suggesting 112,000 deaths due to heart disease, cancer stroke... - caused by poor diet
 - a. The American Cancer Society, says 550,000 Americans die each year from cancer, and a third of these deaths are caused by poor diet. THAT'S 183,000 not 112,000
<http://www.livestrong.com/article/329463-poor-diet-facts/>
 - b. The CDC in Journal of the American Medical Association, issued a correction. Due to computational errors, where it overstated the number of deaths due to poor diet and inactivity. The original number of 100,000 additional deaths in 2000 compared to 1990 was revised to only 65,000 additional deaths.

Top 7 Causes of Death continued...

- Heart disease (710,760 deaths)
- Cancer (553,091)
- Stroke (167,561)
- Lung disease (122,009)
- Injuries from accidents (97,900)
- Diabetes (69,301)
- Flu and pneumonia (65,313)

"With sedentary lifestyle and obesity, we see higher rates of hypertension and diabetes, which are risk factors for stroke or heart attack," says Joseph Miller, MD, a preventive cardiologist with Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta. <http://www.webmd.com/men/news/20040309/inactivity-obesity-are-killing-americans?page=2>

5. Fact - NOT even the CDC is sure of causes of death... Is it poor diet, lack of exercise, genetics...?
6. Calvin cites that Americans are 24lbs heavier than they were in 1960 – ever hear of technology? In the first half of the 20th century Americans dined on bacon and eggs, steak and potatoes, bread & butter, pudding, whole milk... All high in fat and calories. But they worked hard, enjoyed physical labor, they built things... We now have a service economy {a sedentary lifestyle} with the majority of people sitting behind computers or living on welfare...
7. I eat pounds of junk food every week, but I also run 30 miles a week, swim and engage in other physical activities. Should I and other RESPONSIBLE adults be punished because you think the citizens can't be trusted with their own health and diet?
8. Establishing nutritional standards IS NOT the purview of local governments – IT IS the responsibility of parents and individual.

9. What's next? - mandating a morning exercise regimen like they do in communist China?

10. This law could be a Civil Rights Violation – CHOICES are part of everyday life. Perhaps instead of MANDATING rules that YOU like let the citizens decide what's best for them. Every time the government usurps one more responsibility from the individual, you take away liberty, freedom of choice and personal responsibility.
11. This foolish legislation will eventually cause vendors to stop providing services at county events, residents will stop attending and the county will NOT have anyone to whom they can pass down their dictum.
12. Howard County is surrounded by 6 other counties all with 15-20 minutes' drive where they can enjoy what THEY want. Neither Howard County nor its residents will receive any benefit from this feckless mandate.
13. During this law's previous implementation many people stopped going to Howard county events and I'll be sure to tell my 1000's of colleagues to do the same should this stupid law be implemented once again.
14. Finally --- I ask you ALL – what is the benefit of this legislation? I can think of NONE. Just as anti-gun legislation costs MORE lives the sugar ban will also have unforeseen NEGATIVE effects. Is your sole purpose to only punish responsible people?
15. LASTLY - if this proposed legislation is meant to embarrass Executive Kittleman or extort some political gain at the expense of the citizens I find that repugnant and beneath the dignity of a responsible legislative body.
16. I urge you to REJECT this ill-conceived legislation and its Author.