

FW: Council Bill 17-2015

Sigaty, Mary Kay

Sent: Thursday, July 30, 2015 3:07 PM

To: Feldmark, Jessica; Sayers, Margery; councilrecords

From: Jan Horan <JHORAN9052@COMCAST.NET>**Date:** Thursday, July 30, 2015 at 2:51 PM**To:** "jweinstein@howardcountymd.gov", "gsmith@howardcountymd.gov", "cball@howardcountymd.gov", "kp ruim@howardcountymd.gov", "jterrasa@howardcountymd.gov", "mksigaty@howardcountymd.gov", "mclay@howardcountymd.gov", "gfox@howardcountymd.gov", "kknight@howardcountymd.gov"**Subject:** Council Bill 17-2015

Elected council members I ask that you uphold County Executive Allan Kittleman's veto of Council Bill 17-2015, a bill that would set nutritional standards for any food or beverage sold on county property. I would like to remind you of several points:

- It is not the role of government to set nutritional standards for me or my family.
- Nutritional standards constantly change and by codifying what this elected body now considers appropriate nutritional standards will change
- Some people with certain medical issues cannot tolerate artificial sweeteners
- Vending machines should offer choices that include both foods and beverages with sugar and with artificial sweeteners. Remember, this is still the United States of America and citizens should be able to make choices that best suit their dietary needs.
- The legislation is specific to what is termed county owned property. I would like to also remind you that what you term as county owned property was and is paid for and maintained with my tax dollar for county government use. County tax payers should have the freedom of choice when visiting or participating in meetings, programs, special or recreational events on property owned and paid for by the citizens of

Howard County.

- County government's role should be to promote nutritional programs in our schools starting in kindergarten through high school and to require that all students who are physically able to participate in school physical education programs.
- The Horizon Foundation polled 602 voters in Howard County for opinions on this legislation. When reading the *Sun Paper* article, it gave percentages like 75% and 69% in favor of this bill. Sounds like big numbers of voters in favor of the bill but in actuality there are 208,891 registered voters in Howard County according to my call to the Board of Elections today, July 30, 2015. In fact, Horizon's poll reflects 0.0028818 registered voters polled, hardly a mandate regardless of the percentages reported by Horizon or the *Sun Paper*.

I respectfully request that you uphold County Executive Kittleman's veto of this bill. County Executive Kittleman was elected to represent all Howard County citizens not just the 602 voters polled by the Horizon Foundation.

Jan Horan
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