

July 18,2016

Re: CR 101-2016 Charter Amendment County Budget

Chairman Ball and members of the County Council:

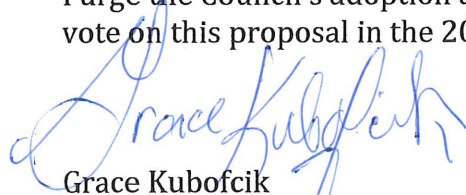
I support CR 101 as proposed by Council members Sigaty and Weinstein as a Charter Amendment to amend provisions related to the County Budget. Simply what is proposed is the opportunity to have a continuing, nonlapsing reserve fund for retiree obligations and a contingency reserve fund that shall not exceed 3% of the General Fund.

The County Executive would contain these new items each fiscal year in the current expense budget as submitted to the County Council. The County Council would be able to increase the appropriations to either of these funds.

The other component of the legislation is to create in the County's Capital Budget a contingency capital reserve project which the County Council could also increase.

The proposal provides the County with additional fiscal tools and the capacity to prudently reserve funds for future obligations.

I urge the Council's adoption and the opportunity for Howard County citizens to vote on this proposal in the 2016 General Election.



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