



Council Bill 55-2018

July 16, 2018

Testimony

Good evening. As President of the Association of Community Services, it is my privilege to testify in support of Council Bill 55-2018 co-sponsored by Council Members Ball and Terrasa.

As you all well know, many ACS members work with the most at risk residents in our community. Certainly, most mobile home park residents could be counted among those residents.

Our testimony can add very little to the compelling, real life testimony of the Deep Run Park mother who struggles to remain in Howard County. Eliminating the monthly rental tax could be the difference between her family maintaining a home here in the county, enabling her son to attend Howard County schools and her having to uproot her family and find affordable housing elsewhere. Hers is but one of 1100 other stories from the families paying this burdensome tax.

What possible rationale is there to impose this tax on mobile home park residents—among the most economically vulnerable in our community—when it is not imposed on any other County renters? Let us follow the example set by Anne Arundel County and make at least one sector of Howard County housing MORE affordable for these households.

ACS strongly urges Council passage of CB 55 and the immediate repeal of the Mobile Home Site Rental tax. I thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

Grace Morris, President
Association of Community Services