



*ACS supports Howard County nonprofits in the achievement of their missions
because strong nonprofits improve the quality of life for all.*

County Resolution 85-20 – Howard County – Amends Recordation Tax

Position: Support

May 11, 2020

As Executive Director of the Association of Community Services (ACS), it is my privilege to offer testimony on behalf of our over 170 nonprofit member organizations and community advocates who work diligently on behalf of vulnerable populations in our community. I am offering this letter in support of CR 85-2020, which restructures the recordation tax on real estate transactions from a flat rate to a progressive rate based on the value of the property.

Recent budget projections state that this restructuring of the recordation tax could generate \$21 million in revenue for FY '21. In this time of increasing financial needs for everyone due to COVID-19, a revenue opportunity such as this that is not detrimental to people with low and moderate incomes is a very reasonable step forward in funding County operations that benefit all of us. We would like to impress upon you to ensure that funding is equitably used to meet essential needs in the County, particularly for housing and school construction. Every effort must be made to address the shortages we have in affordable housing and ensure that school facilities are adequate to meet the growing student population.

We appreciate your consideration of our request that you give a favorable vote CR 85-2020.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Driessen
Joan Driessen
Executive Director