

**National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) Charles County Branch**

Post Office Box 2401 ♦ Waldorf, Maryland 20604 Phone: 240-776-2828



September 29, 2020

Commissioner Reuben B. Collins  
Commissioner Bobby Rucci  
Commissioner Gilbert “BJ” O. Bowling  
Commissioner Thomasina O. Coates  
Commissioner Amanda M. Stewart

Re: Letter of Support – Senior Resident Rent Increase Relief

Dear President Collins and Members of the Board of Commissioners:

On behalf of the Charles County NAACP, this letter is to express our support for legislation proposed by Commissioner Collins to implement housing relief for seniors in the form of mandated rent stabilization to prevent rental costs for seniors from increasing beyond their ability to pay.

Our organization believes in supporting individuals and causes that enhance the wellbeing and safety for all in our community. The proposal aligns with the outcomes we are aiming to achieve by protecting our elderly residents from potential homelessness and displacement due to escalating and unaffordable rent increases.

The proposed rent increase limits for senior residents is an additional tool to help preserve affordable housing in our community, which we know is a significant problem both regionally and nationwide. The urgent issue of rent burden is one experienced by both young adults and older residents in Charles County, but we recognize the priority of addressing this issue with our vulnerable elderly population, as they oftentimes no longer have the ability to earn additional income and cannot bear the burden of rent increases while relying on fixed retirement income.

We fully support legislation to limit rent increases imposed on senior residents. We encourage the Board of Commissioners to include this proposal in its 2021 Legislation Package to the Charles County Delegation of the Maryland General Assembly. Thank you for the opportunity to present our support.

Sincerely,

**Dyoth R Sweat**

Dyotha Sweat  
President  
Charles County NAACP

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation’s oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Its members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities. You can read more about the NAACP’s work and our six “Game Changer” issue areas by visiting [NAACP.org](https://www.naacp.org).