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Waldorf, MD 20602-3749

Phone: (240) 222-3021 Fax: (240)419-2515  
Email: unitedministerscoalitions@gmail.com

September 24, 2020  
Charles County Board of County Commissioners  
Charles County Government Building  
200 Baltimore Street  
La Plata, Maryland 20646

Re: Letter of Support – Senior Resident Rent Increase Relief

Dear President Collins and Members of the Board of Commissioners:

On behalf of all of the churches of the United Ministers Coalition, 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,

Pastor Willie R. Hunt  
President, United Ministers Coalition

President: Pastor Willie R. Hunt  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President: Bishop Larry D. Palmer  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President: Pastor Roderick McClanahan



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Re: Letter of Support – Rental Housing Registration and Licensing Program

Dear President Collins and Members of the Board of Commissioners:

On behalf of all of the churches of the United Ministers Coalition this letter is to express our support for legislation proposed by Commissioner Collins to implement a rental housing registration and licensing program.

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 ensuring that all tenants reside in safe and habitable rental units in the County. We are aware that tenants, some of whom are low income residents, fear retribution should they complain about substandard housing conditions. This proposal will ensure that any dwelling offered for rent in the County will meet appropriate livability standards and will encourage ongoing maintenance.

We fully support legislation to implement a rental housing registration and licensing program in Charles County. Similar programs have existed in the Towns of La Plata and Indian Head and seem to enhance the overall condition and quality of our neighborhoods. 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.

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Pastor Willie R. Hunt

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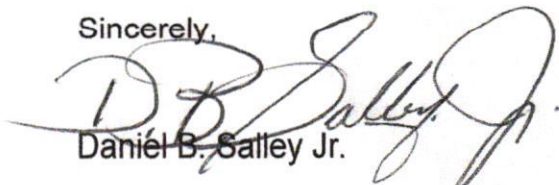
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Sincerely,



Daniel B. Salley Jr.

Chaplin, United Ministers Coalition

President: Pastor Willie R. Hunt  
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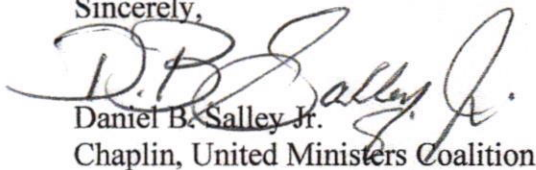
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