



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Howard County Council Testifies in Support of Study of Health Effects of Air Traffic Noise from BWI

Ellicott City, MD (February 18, 2020) – On January 30th and February 11, 2020 Howard County Council Members Liz Walsh and Deb Jung testified in Annapolis on behalf of the Howard County Council in support of Senate Bill 184 and House Bill 310, which would require the University of Maryland, Baltimore to study the health effects of air traffic noise on communities near Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport. Council Member Walsh testified before the Senate Committee on Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee and Council Member Jung testified before the House Appropriations Committee.

If passed, this legislation would require Governor Hogan to include funding for the study in the budget in the 2022 budget bill. The study would assess health outcomes in communities before and after implementation of the Next Generation Air Transportation System including cardiovascular diseases, generalized anxiety disorder, and other conditions that are reasonably related to air traffic noise.

In their unanimous letter of support for the study, the Howard County Council expressed strong support for the legislation, noting the Council's support for pending legal actions against the Federal Aviation Administration to redress impacts and Councilmember Jung's continuing representation of the Council on the BWI Metroplex Roundtable working with the Maryland Aviation Administration to identify technical solutions for noise reduction.

You can read the Howard County Council's letter of support to the General Assembly [here](#) and view Council Chair Jung's testimony [here](#).

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