



# NEWS RELEASE

## HOWARD COUNTY COUNCIL

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Councilmembers Ball & Terrasa File Legislation to Provide Relief to Mobile Home Residents by Repealing the County’s Mobile Home Site Rental Tax**

*Ellicott City, MD (July 3, 2018)* – Yesterday, Howard County Councilmembers Calvin Ball and Jen Terrasa introduced Council Bill 55-2018, which would repeal the County’s Mobile Home Site Rental Tax. The tax is 10% on the first \$300 of rent and 5% of all rent over that amount. It is assessed on owners of individual mobile homes and collected by the owners of mobile home parks as part of the monthly rent.

“This tax represents a significant financial burden on the shoulders of those who are already living on a fixed income and struggling to make ends meet,” said Dr. Ball. “Our proposed legislation to repeal this regressive tax will provide relief to the most vulnerable in our communities and return roughly 16.5% of a renter’s monthly bill back into their wallets for savings or other necessities.”

The tax impacts roughly 1,100 Howard County mobile home residents who pay an average of \$700 in rent per month. On top of that rent, each renter pays approximately \$45 per month, or \$540 per year, for the mobile home site rental tax, an additional 6.5% per month. The Mobile Home Site Rental Tax is not a property tax. The mobile home park’s property taxes are not reduced in any way because of the mobile home site rental tax, and there is no similar tax paid by renters of apartments or homes.

“It’s simply not fair for residents of mobile home parks to pay a premium to live in a mobile home park,” said Terrasa.

Last year, Anne Arundel County passed similar legislation to repeal their Mobile Home Space Tax, which charged mobile home park residents \$300 a year.

Council Bill 55-2018 was introduced at the Council’s legislative session on July 2, 2018. Testimony will be accepted at the legislative public hearing on July 16, 2018. To sign up to testify, visit <https://apps.howardcountymd.gov/otestimony/>. If you would like to submit your testimony electronically, email [councilmail@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:councilmail@howardcountymd.gov).

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