

I am addressing the council for the purpose of stating my opinion on Bill 34-21. I am outraged and more than disappointed that there are members of the Council that are ready and willing to throw away the careers and futures of employees simply over a medical choice.

I understand that the Council, sitting as the Board of Health may enact regulations. While I disagree with elected officials acting in any medical capacity, I recognize this is an accepted practice.

What is happening with 34-21 is going far beyond established practices. The council is circumventing established and functioning collective bargaining between labor and the County in order to force their agenda through, without a legal process. The Council is literally going to force Montgomery County employees to either leave their careers or abandon their ability to make a personal health choice. Should an employee who has a substance abuse disorder be terminated? What about obesity? Both of those conditions cause thousands of deaths and are preventable.

I do sympathize with the position that public safety is part of the Councils obligation to the citizens. I also recognize that personal health decisions should be made through conference between the patient and their Doctor.

Please remember that we are discussing Montgomery County Governments most valuable asset, our people. Please do not ratify Bill 34-21.

Respectfully, Charles Greene.