

Montgomery County Council
100 Maryland Avenue, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850

January 18, 2022

Dear Council Members,

I am an 8th generation Montgomery County resident. In 1761, my great-great-great-great-great grandfather, John Poole, purchased land in what is now Poolesville. 15 years later, in 1776, the same year the United States of America declared itself free from a tyrannical government, Montgomery County was created from Frederick County. In 1793, John Poole's son, John Poole II, built the first house in what became the town of Poolesville, in which he lived and kept a store. The Poole *Record of Descendants* notes that this house "*served as the nucleus of the town that subsequently grew up around it.*" His business served a community that became the jewel of the Agricultural Reserve you know today.

My family has long been part of the Montgomery County community. Never in my life did I think I would leave here. With the introduction of the vaccine passport bill, the consideration is strong, and, if passed, my departure is imminent. And with that departure will be my wife and 5-year-old son, a 9th generation Montgomery County resident. And there are many others I know who are having the same thoughts. This bill destroys the community which you claim to protect and serve.

I could go on but in the interest of brevity I will close now, to allow you to digest this and undoubtedly countless other pieces of opposition testimony. As members of the County Council, you are a product of one of the first three counties in the United States of America to be established by elected representatives. Let your record on this matter show that you unified your constituents and community, not divided it. As elected Council Members who represent the citizens of the County, I implore you to reject the Council's recommendation to push this legislation forward in any capacity.

Upon the Poole family crest is the motto "*Pollet virtus*", which means "*By his virtue he is strong.*" Please reflect on that when making your decision. I appreciate you taking the time to read my concerns. I long to keep my roots planted here.

Respectfully,

Ryan Schultze