Montgomery County Council,

My name is Michael Murabito. I was born and raised in Montgomery County and my parents still live there. I currently live in Frederick County, 0.4 miles from the Frederick/Montgomery County line and often do business in the county given Damascus is the closest shopping area to our home.

I am writing to object to the proposed Vaccine Passport Bill. My entire family has been previously infected with and recovered from COVID-19. Natural immunity is currently thought to be superior to the COVID-19 vaccines\(^1\), and studies have shown the COVID vaccines do not offer benefit to those who have already had an infection\(^2\). Additionally, I can not see the logic in giving my children any medical treatment considered experimental when, having already had the disease, that treatment provides no advantage to them.

I have also heard the County and media refer to individuals who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19 as dangerous to those who have. However, the COVID vaccines do not prevent transmission of the virus, and the Omicron variant is now rapidly spreading both among those who are vaccinated for COVID and those who are not. In fact, we believe the most likely source for our family exposure and infection with the virus was a COVID-19 vaccinated individual. Therefore, there does not seem to be any advantage to our fellow community for us or anyone recovered from the virus to be vaccinated.

Despite the scientific evidence that my family and thousands of other people who had no need of a vaccine because they have recovered from COVID are no threat to the community, the Council is considering an irrational bill to remove both our ability to be treated as equal citizens inside of Montgomery County and our medical privacy.

We’d like to continue to patronize restaurants, entertainment venues, businesses, and doctors’ offices in Montgomery County; however, if the County Council votes to legalize discrimination against us, it seems the smarter course of action to stop doing any business in Montgomery County, lest we give indirect consent or support for discrimination.

v/r

Michael Murabito

---