

I have been a resident of Montgomery County for 30 years, and I am writing today to voice my deep concern with the Vaccine Passport Proposal. It is without question that **vaccine status does not confer infectious status**. Recent studies are showing that prior infection confers **greater immunity than vaccines**. If it is the infection that this proposal seeks to bar, vaccine status is clearly not the answer.

My fully-vaccinated son came home from college infected with the virus and **unknowingly** spread it to every **fully-vaccinated** person in the home. I've seen his vaccine card; it did nothing to stop the spread.

While I see no clear benefits to this passport, I do see harms. It stokes a division between those who choose to vaccinate and those who do not that I find sinister. I am sickened to see political leaders blaming their unvaccinated constituents for the waning efficacy of the vaccines and variants emerging from halfway around the globe. With all of the recent help wanted signs, limited hours due to staffing shortages and bare shelves, it is clear that this proposal will further harm our local businesses by reducing patronage, increasing service time and further burdening the personnel that remain. I recently moved a dinner celebration from DC to a restaurant in Virginia because DC just activated a vaccine passport. Producing papers to show that one can legitimately move freely in a "free society" harkens back to a dark time in this country's history, one that does not bear repeating.

With no clear benefit, and livelihoods and freedom at stake, I urge you to reject this proposal. Montgomery County Maryland does not need a Vaccine Passport!