

I write to you as a long time Montgomery County resident, a small business employee, a licensed healthcare professional and a very concerned Marylander.

I am asking you take into account in your decision, the following

1. SCIENCE

-As you are all aware by now, the CDC has informed the United States on 08/06/21 that Covid-19 vaccines are NO LONGER EFFECTIVE AT PREVENTING TRANSMISSION.

-Dr. Fauci on August 1st informed us that CDC data that "THE LEVEL OF VIRUS IN THE NASOPHARYNX OF PEOPLE WHO ARE VACCINATED WHO GET INFECTIONS IS REALLY QUITE HIGH AND EQUIVALENT TO THE LEVEL OF UNVACCINATED PEOPLE WHO GET INFECTED.

(we all know by now this virus is transmitted from the nasopharynx of one person to another. So vaccinated people are infected, yet have decreased symptoms, they are MORE likely to not stay home and therefore go out and TRANSMIT virus to other people—i.e. sitting next to a table while eating or browsing a store, or sitting in a movie theater).

- We live in one of the most vaccinated counties in the nation. The vast majority of us are vaccinated and many boosted, yet still have become infected (and likely spread) Omicron as evidenced by the recent EXPLOSION of cases amongst our HIGHLY vaccinated population.

-The CDC released a study last week that natural immunity provides significantly more protection against COVID than Vaccination only.

Would you allow people to present natural immunity? i.e. circulating blood antibodies, T and Memory B cell immunity? Science tells us it's more effective.

Please, follow the science!

2. This bill violates MARYLAND CONSTITUTION as well as the U.S. CONSTITUTION. There will be lawsuits. There will be Protests and a lot of coverage on this.

We have read that you based this on Washington D.C. mandate put in place by the mayor, Muriel Bowser. We do not live in WASHINGTON D.C., we live in Maryland. Local and state government operate differently in our state and we request that you not follow one woman's mandate on a city that we do not live in. We elected you to listen to OUR citizens who are speaking to you LOUD AND CLEAR to vote this down.

3. UNFAIR TO BUSINESS OWNERS

As you know, our business' (especially small business) have been through a lot and continue to struggle since COVID 19. How can you require such business to now hire more manpower to check IDs and papers? But allow big box stores to carry on? It almost seems as you are trying to put many of the already struggling business owners in Montgomery County to have to shut down!

Any business, that chooses to enact a vaccine mandate already has the right to enforce such. Patrons then can choose to go where they feel most comfortable.

4. WE SHOULD CARE ABOUT ALL MONTGOMERY COUNTY CITIZENS

WE ARE AT A TIME WHEN INCLUSIVITY MATTERS MORE THAN EVER. Do not vote in to enforce DISCRIMINATION. Pitting our citizens against each other is immoral and quite frankly , very irresponsible.

There has been an astonishing uptick in tween / teen depression and suicides in our County. This pandemic has hit them really hard. Our younger children too. The isolation has been so detrimental! Is it fair to ask them “for their papers” to go to a movie, a bowling alley, or to shop? Many of them would lose their “papers” and many cannot afford smart phones. Many are not allowed phones (as science shows how detrimental they can be). DO you feel comfortable with yourselves KNOWING you would be contributing to further isolate our youth?!? How could you possibly be OK with that?

Do the right thing: Let businesses decide what they want to enforce and residents decide where they want to go. Please follow the science, follow our law, support local business owners and our mental health. We voted for you to protect the rights of Montgomery County Citizens. We are making our voices heard, please listen!

With Heart,

Amy Scribner