

Dead Council Members,

My name is Cecilia Lazo, I live at [REDACTED] I have been a resident of Montgomery County for 15 years. I work cleaning houses, but I barely have 3 days of work, and they increased my rent by 5%. The truth is, I can't pay my rent, medical expenses, and utilities because the rate at which rents are increasing far exceeds the rate at which my salary is growing. I am very stressed in this situation. We need rent stabilization that genuinely will benefit our communities. That is why I am writing to urge all of you to support the HOME ACT.

When tenants are forced to leave because of excessive rent increases, it hurts not just that particular tenant but all of us. Schools are destabilized when families are forced to move. Jobs are lost when tenants move far away to afford the rent. Communities are uprooted when tenants can no longer stay in housing they may have occupied for years.

As a resident of the County, I believe that it is critical that we put people first. I am asking for a YES vote on the HOME Act, Bill 16-23.

**Cecilia Lazo**

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