

Legislative Testimony for Nov 16 2020 (public)

Full Name	Home Address	City	Zip Code	Representing	What organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachment
Lucy M Franklin	176 Sansbury Road	Friendship	20758	Yes		Bill 85-20a1:	Oppose	Bill 69-20 Zoning - Farm or Agricultural Heritage Site Stays and Special Events	YES
Christina Weinstein	216 Long Point Rd.	Crownsville	21032	No	Friends of Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control, Inc.	Bill 89-20:	Support	The board of Friends of Anne Arundel County Animal Care & Control, the nonprofit created by shelter volunteers in 2014 to help improve and save the lives of the shelter's animals, strongly supports Bill 89-20. As shelter volunteers, we witness some of the pain and suffering caused by irresponsible pet owners – and not only to their own animals. Other pets often are the victims of cats and dogs allowed to roam freely, as are citizens bitten by stray pets. And rarely spoken about is the anguish of shelter employees, animal lovers all. They are forced to euthanize basically friendly animals whose owners let them repeatedly run amok until finally the pets get into such bad trouble that the law requires that they be killed. They feed and care for protective custody dogs for many months while their legal cases drag through the judicial system, aware that some are almost certainly doomed because of their dangerous prior behavior. Some dogs arrive in terrible physical condition and are nurtured back to physical (but not mental) health by staff members who know they ultimately will be euthanized. Meanwhile, the dogs spend many months in cages, suffering alone but too dangerous to be walked outside. This bill takes important steps toward improving public safety and addressing irresponsible pet ownership. We urge the County Council to approve it.	
Lizabeth O'Mahoney	4913 Whipple Way	Shady Side	20764	No	Snug Harbor Citizens' Association	Bill 91-20:	Support	I am here to represent the Snug Harbor Citizens' Association and to answer any questions the Council may have regarding the proposed amendment to our purpose. 58% of the homeowners are in support of this change and 15% are opposed. The County performed a dredge of the community channel this past year, which we very much appreciate, and this purpose change will allow us to be better stewards of the community assets going forward. The amendment will allow the community as a whole to be able to budget money for the future maintenance of the community channel.	
Brielle Woods	994 St Margarets Drive	Annapolis	21409	Yes		Bill 93-20:	Support	I would like to express my support of bills 68-20 and 69-20 as is - without amendments and I ask the county council to support these as well. Agriculture is alive, yet threatened in the state of Maryland. As one of the top 10 industries in the state, agritourism is a key element in keeping our agricultural land in active farming! The passing of these bills will provide clarity insofar as proper procedures and processes for farmers and provides the county's agencies with clear code requirements and regulations, and clarity for enforcement thereto. As our families become more and more remote from "life on a farm," we acknowledge the rise in popularity and demand for agritourism. Most importantly, when people connect with the farm land and the fresh local food and the farmers who grew it; they then value the land, and want to preserve it. This is the beauty of agritourism. Large-scale farming has become more and more challenging as development has consumed many of our larger tracts of land in this state and especially Anne Arundel County. To support our working farmers, and allow us to continue to work our land and raise our livestock, we need to be allowed to invite the public to visit our farms for intimate farm experiences that promote our farm products and inspire a love of the land to our visitors. These two bills are vital to allowing farms to continue farming as they provide the opportunity for farmers to host a limited number of special events and to offer farm stays for guests to connect with the land and the farm. This provides accessory income to working farmers who are wanting to make a living on the farm and insure that they can hold onto their farms for generations to come.	
Mary M. Schonhardt	3017 Lost Creek Blvd	Laurel	20724	Yes		Bill 94-20:	Support	Five or more arrests within a 30-day period seems to be a reasonable definition of public nuisance. These hotels have been a persistent problem for many years. They have a negative effect on the safety of residents in Russett and surrounding areas. They drain police resources. 94-20 will help keep the owners and managers accountable for the illegal and dangerous activity that frequently occurs in the hotels. Thanks to Mr. Pruski for pursuing this legislation doggedly over the years.	
David Lowe	3605 Chase Hills Dr	Laurel	20724	No	Russett HOA	Bill 94-20:	Support	For over 10 years the hotels along the 198 corridor have been a constant drain on police, fire, and emergency services. The Russett community with 2,698 units and approximately 13,000 residents is directly impacted from these poorly operated business. Russett has to employ our own security, at a substantial cost, to address criminal activity from these business. Many high profile crimes have been spotlighted in news organizations which are detrimental to attracting other businesses and residents into the area which in turn results in less tax revenue for the county. Our community is further impacted by the deterioration of our environmental surroundings with trash and drug paraphernalia strewn about. It is not uncommon to see prostitutes, drug dealers and other individuals of ill-reputed character on our streets therefore impacting the quality of life and property values within the Russett community. The situation continues to degrade waiting for something to be done. The problem needs to be addressed now before it is allowed to spread to other parts of the county as I suspect it already has. The residents fully support this bill and encourage its anticipated adoption. Thank you	
Tim Bernadzikowski	8124 Mallard Shore Drive	Laurel	20724	Yes		Bill 94-20:	Support	I am not acting here in an official capacity, but I have served in the BOD of Russett Community Association (RCA) for over 4 years. We have heard numerous complaints from residents about crimes perpetrated in Russett (assaults, muggings, auto theft, parcel thefts, hookers roaming around, possible drug dealers, etc. The 911 records provide ample evidence that the "residents" of these hotels are not good citizens or good neighbors to RCA. There are reasons why our homes are worth 20-30% less than other surrounding communities. A huge contributor to that is the disgrace that are these hotels. And to be fair, other businesses may be contributors as well. In particular, Jackie's Liquors. Patrons loitering on the corner at all hours. Mot live at the hotels. Some may be homeless? it attracts all the worst segments of society. These hotels should NOT be used for long-term living arrangements for families. We have school buses form 3-4 jurisdictions picking up students at these hotels. County Social workers should help these families find more stable housing with things like an actual kitchen. The hotels must be held accountable for the extra cost of county services for the hundreds/thousands of 911 calls to deal with fights, assaults, drugs, prostitution, etc. I am generally VERY pro-business. But that support ends when they come a nuisance to the community and cause our home prices to plummet. AACounty needs to restore the precinct sub-station in 20724. RCA spends over \$150K/YEAR on police patrols, and we still have too much crime. We are also asking the county and businesses to pay for a tall concrete wall to keep the riff raff form these businesses out of our nice community! Sincerely Tim Bernadzikowski Director/Treasurer RCA Resident for 22 years	
Aaron Greenfield	11155 Dolfield Blvd., Suite200	Owings Mills	21117	No	Maryland Multi-Housing Association	Bill 94-20:	Oppose	MMHA opposes this bill unless amended.	YES
Amy	20 Ridgely Ave., Suite 309	Annapolis	21401	No	Maryland Hotel Lodging Association	Bill 94-20:	Support	Position is Support with Amendment	YES

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Susan Cochran	332 Hamlet Circle	Edgewater	21037	Yes	League of Women Voters of AAC	Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	While I generally support law enforcement, I also think that efforts to improve the police force are important. The resolution should reflect that somehow. I am not sure what "delegitimize" means. Maybe a study of how police and different communities can understand each other better would be in order. The MD legislature is working on some improvements to policing in all counties that will be very helpful.	
Judith Singleton	305A Thelma Avenue	Glen Burnie	21061	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I am requesting AA County to please support Resolution 47-20. I have had to call the police twice, and their prompt, professional and polite service each time was invaluable. I read the headlines, and see crime increasing at an alarming rate throughout Anne Arundel County. Thank you very much.	
Tonya Foley	491 Margaret Ln	Arnold	21012	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	This Resolution provides no substantive benefit, but acts only as a divisive, one-sided effort to silence efforts at meaningful police reform. Legitimate calls for police reform DO NOT equate to harassment or lack of support for police. This resolution denies even acknowledging the systemic racism and perpetual issues plaguing modern policing. It is only through honest evaluation and reform that our community, which includes ALL members, can begin to rebuild trust and enact reforms that protect our minority community members. This resolution takes a narrow, one-sided, blatantly biased view of a complex issue. It refuses to acknowledge any of the problems, taking no responsibility for systemic issues in policing, while painting those who call for reform as engaging in harassment or calls for violence against the police, which is demonstrably false. We, as a community, can support our police while still demanding that they address systemic issues and demanding accountability. This resolution does nothing to further those efforts. I respectfully request that this resolution be voted down, and that our board members instead take MEANINGFUL efforts to address issues with policing in our community to improve the lives of everyone.	
Caroline Hadley	304 Clopston Hill	Sherwood Fore	21405	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I urge you to oppose Resolution 47-20. This resolution presumes that much work will be done to reform law enforcement and that work has yet to be done. The Police Dept and Sheriff's Office have "put forth" policy changes but will these all be implemented, followed, and be sufficient to improve public safety? Will they work? Are there police responsibilities that need to be reassigned to improve public safety? Who is best equipped to promote public safety in a variety of situations. The work of reforming law enforcement has begun. Let it not end until measures have been implemented that truly bring about the change we need. This congratulatory resolution is premature at best and sends the wrong message.	
David N Beavis	319 Holland Rd	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I support the work and efforts of the county police but think the wording of the paragraph below implies criticism of legitimate protests and it should not be included in the resolution. " WHEREAS, efforts to delegitimize through harassment, insults, threats, and violence are not compatible with support of the profession of law enforcement and the men and women who take an oath of office to protect and serve the citizens of Anne Arundel County and to improve the institution of law enforcement; now, therefore, be it"	
Christiane Beavis	319 Holland Rd	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	This resolution ignores the current situation in our nation and in Anne Arundel County. By making such a broad statement of support you are undermining the efforts of many of AA county citizens to bring about reform and true equal justice and protection. The verbiage seems directed at protests, which is very concerning to me. I support the police and respect the job they do. But they must be held accountable and should not be given blanket accolades when there are serious issues of police misconduct towards our citizens. Perhaps a better way to give support would be to praise specific policy changes they have made or need to make that show the police support all it's citizens equally. Thank you.	
Heather Trimm	5543 Dartmouth St	Churchton	20733-9520	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	While the police, and all our public servants, deserve to be recognized for their hard work and sacrifices, this resolution as written should not be passed. The language is concerning - what exactly is meant by denouncing the "delegitimizing" and "insulting" of the police? Especially considering there is an active case against AA county police for police brutality similar to the actions that killed George Floyd. By all means, recognize the hard work of the police as well as the work of so many - like the health care industry, especially during the pandemic. Recognize that all lives - including black lives - matter equally in Anne Arundel county. But don't pass this resolution as written.	
Sean Morton	1976 Scotts Crossing Way, Apt 303	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I oppose the current wording of Resolution 47-20. The phrasing of the resolution, specifically the preamble and the fifth clause, seems to imply that any calls for police reform or criticism of policing strategy would be unfounded. It also gives the impression that efforts to redirect funding from general-purpose policing to more targeted public safety programs ("defunding the police") would not be supported by the council. I support law enforcement officers and believe they should have the same rights and protections as any other citizen, and that we should be able to explore ways for improving the safety of our community. I know the county has been working towards and seeing improvements in those areas in recent years. What I want to avoid is discouraging county residents from seeking change when we see an overall benefit from it.	
Megan Randby	533 Leftwich Ln	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I am concerned that Resolution 47-20 results in a blanket approval for law enforcement without acknowledging the harm that law enforcement has inflicted on many county residents, especially people of color, as well as the work that still needs to be done to stop such harm from continuing. Instead, this Resolution incorrectly frames the direction of harm in the opposite way, stating that "efforts to delegitimize through harassment, insults, threats, and violence are not compatible with the support of the profession of law enforcement..." The effects of this Resolution are: to counter Anne Arundel County residents demanding increased transparency and accountability for law enforcement; to make it seem as though law enforcement is under attack by members of the community; and to attempt to return to the status quo in policing rather than continue to reevaluate how best to serve and protect all members of the community. The timing and history of this Resolution reveal the motivation of this Resolution – to improve the appearance of local law enforcement and to redirect from justified demands for accountability. Two recent events have put Anne Arundel County policing in the spotlight – (1) the lawsuit from Daniel Jarrells regarding his February 2019 encounter, where police restrained him by kneeling on his neck, and (2) the viral video of police forcibly removing Antoine Lee Wedington from a car in October 2020. According to a Capital Gazette article, the Anne Arundel County Sheriff deemed it unfair that more people criticized rather than supported the police for their arrest of Wedington, which led to the Sheriff asking Councilman Volke to show support for law enforcement. It is shameful that the result of that video going viral is this Resolution being proposed, rather than our police and County Council making an honest effort to evaluate how law enforcement is harming members of our community, to repair the harm done, and to reassess how future police encounters should be conducted. Rather than pass this Resolution, I ask the County Council to instead (1) work with the County Executive to establish a Civilian Review Board with subpoena authority; (2) take action to support the repeal of the Maryland Law Enforcement Officers Bill of Rights (LEOBR); and (3) expand their view on what makes all residents safer, including but not limited to: improving economic stability and opportunities, investing in more affordable housing, and more equitably allocating funds and resources between schools in the County. Thank you for your time and consideration.	

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Patricia A. Lynch	1648 Homewood Road	Annapolis	21409	No	Broadneck Council of Communities, Inc.	Resolution 47-20:	Support	Our AACP have volunteered to manage the serious traffic problems at Sandy Point State Park on the Fridays/Saturdays and Sundays of summer weekends since 2016 using their overtime funds. The Park and roadway in front of Sandy Point is the responsibility of the State of Md, Dept of Natural Resources who refused to take charge of miles of cars parked directly on the lanes of E. College Parkway and Whitehall Rd. The Stateee refused to fund a position for State Police to direct traffic. The AA Cty Police have committed themselves and weekend work, to ensure the citizens of AAC can reach their homes on the Broadneck by monitoring/managing traffic flow at the Park. All cars are directed back on Rte 50/301 if Sandy Pt parking lot is full so no cars will block traffic on the Broadneck. Our profound thanks to our amazing and dedicated AAC Police. Despite budget constraints they have stuck by us.	
Mary Helen Gurney	8497 Isles Court	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	People in law-enforcement need to be well-trained and confident that they will be supported when they are needed to respond to critical situations.	
Lynda Davis	215 Coronet Drive	Linthicum	21090	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I am urging you to oppose Resolution 47-20 Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies of Anne Arundel County for the following reasons. Passing a resolution to glorify an institution that has proven to be severely flawed when there are other things more deserving of attention and legislation (the pandemic, education, etc.), is a brazen decision. The resolution was submitted while there is active litigation between the Anne Arundel County Police Department and a county resident due to behavior by an officer that mirrors that of the officer that resulted in George Floyd's death. The resolution insinuates or overtly deems that citizens taking issue with lack of transparency (accountability) and calling for a more humane (harm reductive) approach (which can also include reallocating funding) to policing is a threat or affront to the individuals that choose to work in law enforcement. There is deep-seated unconscious bias (and racism in general) at the individual and institutional level that needs to be addressed. I am not aware of any efforts to "delegitimize through harassment, insults, threats, and violence." Can you detail those efforts and then propose a resolution that addresses these efforts? If there were no such efforts, then this resolution appears to be about delegitimizing national and local resistance to police abuse of Black people and blatantly disregards the fact that countless county residents of all ethnicities (including myself, a white person) have made it clear through non-violent, peaceful, organized events, individual correspondence, community and interpersonal discussion that they hold valid concerns about police brutality, misconduct, and the lack of accountability and transparency in the departments. If the phrases "harassment, insults, threats, and violence" are meant to describe this year's Black Lives Matter activism, the description is entirely backward. We have seen massive nonviolent protests around the country and in every part of this county (some of which were attended by the Council members who proposed this legislation). The actions by law enforcement that prompted the protest--and much of law enforcement's response to it--have been dishonorable and ranged from insults, harassment, and threats to violence. Commentators and media outlets with a political agenda and political candidates have promoted the image of the protests and protesters as violent. But time and again police assaulted protesters, and incident after incident of violence or of property destruction has been shown to be the work of groups seeking to exploit the situation. There is no good reason for the County Council to adopt a resolution opposing the phrases quoted above. The following sentences "Law enforcement and the services provided by our law enforcement agencies are essential to the well-being of a just and peaceful Anne Arundel County community" and "The duty of law enforcement is to enforce the law equally and in a fair and just manner without partiality, prejudice, or discrimination" associate law enforcement with justice and peace and fairness without saying anything about how the people this resolution is meant to support conduct themselves. Adopting a resolution that makes assertions like the ones listed below should come at the end of the process we are ready to start, not at the beginning of it. "The County Council supports the efforts, best practices, and beneficial policy changes that have been put forth and adopted by the Anne Arundel County Sheriff's Office, the Anne Arundel County Police Department, the Crofton Police Department, and all other partnering law enforcement agencies serving the citizens of our County while working to improve public safety and while continuing to reduce overall crime" and "These advancements have contributed to ensuring that the men and woman [sic] who serve as law enforcement professionals in Anne Arundel County conduct their duties with the highest of professional standards and respect for all members of our community." This year's Black Lives Matter protests have not just been against specific acts of violence against Black people. They have been for public safety. While some quick reforms within the old framework have already taken place, we have much more work ahead of us. That work will create a better strategy for making the public safe than the one we've been relying on. This will involve evaluating what policing can and cannot do and reassigning responsibilities that have fallen to our police forces because we haven't had better ways to handle them. This big, important, difficult job lies ahead of us. It is not already done, as this resolution's satisfaction with all the efforts by all the law enforcement agencies serving the county's residents suggests. Regarding this sentence: "Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, that it hereby expresses its support and appreciation for our law enforcement agencies, their leaders, and the men and women who honorably serve the communities of Anne Arundel County," it could be appropriate to say this in response to specific incidents that really did target these agencies. Otherwise, singling them out from among all the public employees who serve the county's residents--health care workers, public health officials, sanitation workers, firefighters, mental health professionals--raises "law and order" above our health and safety. It is for all of these reasons that I urge you to oppose Resolution 47-20. Thank you.	
ALFA STEVENS	7923 CARRIAGE DR	SEVERN	21144	No	League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County (LWVAAC)	Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	Oppose Resolution 47-20 as introduced. full statement attached.	YES
Sharon Hull	783 Mago Vista Road	Arnold	21012	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I am so grateful for law enforcement officers in our area of Anne Arundel County. They have always gone out of their way to be helpful and caring. May God bless them for their help.	
Barbara Sause	107 Severn River Road	Severn River R	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	Of course we support and appreciate our police. We also want fair, unbiased policing. If asking the police to have greater transparency is seen as "delegitimizing" harassment, we have a problem. The language of this resolution seems designed to fuel the problem.	
Diane McAveety	276 Lower Magothy Beach Road	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	This is absolutely necessary for the safety and well-being of all our county residents. Our law enforcement first responders, who risk their lives regularly for our safety, deserve our utmost appreciation and support. To deny this support, would not only seriously endanger our police officers and their families, which is reckless and absolutely unacceptable, but would ultimately impact and endanger all those in our county. It is a simple choice, supporting law and order for the safety of our residents, or anarchy endangering all.	

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Norma Jean Giunta	104 Wileys Lane	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	The United States was founded on the principles of liberty, justice and the rule of law. I believe that our law enforcement is essential to the maintenance of our freedom and I reject any assault on the men and women of law enforcement. We need to protect our cops so they can protect our communities. These heroes risk their lives every day on the job in order to protect and serve their fellow citizens, including those who demean their sacrifice. Unfortunately, Anne Arundel County's finest do not always receive the honor and recognition they deserve for their sacrifices and bravery. They are even demonized for their heroism, whether by politicians, the mainstream media, celebrities, or professional athletes. I would like to go on record as positively supporting Resolution (Res. 47-20) to show support for the law enforcement officers of Anne Arundel County. I can't believe that anyone would be against this resolution or classify it as being controversial.	
Debbie Bonanno	7925 River Rock Way	Stoney Beach	21226	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support		
Laticia Hicks	2468 Chelmsford Dr	Crofton	21114	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I am writing to express my concern with the proposed resolution 47-20, Supporting Law Enforcement Agencies, as currently written. While parts of the resolution rightfully state the Anne Arundel County Law Enforcement agencies' purpose and responsibilities and acknowledge the excellent effort and necessary policy changes implemented by the law enforcement community, the work is not done. Lines 1-3 and 24-27 of the resolution are problematic. What is meant by "and disapproving the efforts to delegitimize the honorable profession of law enforcement"? This statement is dangerously vague. Without more clarification, it is difficult to interpret who the County Counsel is referring to? What precisely are the efforts being used to delegitimize law enforcement? Unfortunately, as written, this statement may have the unintended consequence of subjecting the County Counsel to accusations of bias in favor of all law enforcement officials against the citizens they serve, regardless of the circumstances. Our law enforcement agencies' oversight and accountability are paramount in ensuring that high standards of professionalism and excellence are maintained. The citizens must have the means to challenge their public service agencies' policies and procedures to an impartial county council. Any statements to that effect must not be left open to interpretation. Therefore, I implore the council to remove the statement "and disapproving the efforts to delegitimize the honorable profession of law enforcement" from lines 1-3 and lines 24-27 of this resolution before approval. The County Council needs to make clear its support of law enforcement and the citizens of this county. Citizens should be encouraged to express any grievances they may have and report wrongdoing. Their attempts to exercise their civic responsibilities should not deem them as troublemakers trying to delegitimize law enforcement.	
Antonino Gentile	1398 Hurlock Lane	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I support our faithful law enforcement officers of Anne Arundel County! Yes, I'm sure there are policies that need to be worked on, but that can be done through the proper channels of discussion and negotiations. You cannot defund the police, and not give them a fair, wage, health benefits, and most importantly legal recourse in their defense in case an issue should arise. By not supporting our law enforcement officials who will defend the law, keep order and peace. I do not want Anne Arundel County turning into Portland, Oregon! When I call 911, I want the police to come and help me. Remember these men and women are putting their lives on the line! Are you willing to do that for me?	
Susan Deaver	8248 Silver Run Court	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I support resolution 47-20. Everyday these brave men and women put on their uniform with a goal and that is to protect the citizens of this county. We are fortunate to have them willing to do this job. They are our family, neighbors and fellow church members.	
Paula Maria Gentile	1398 Hurlock Ln	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I support our Anne Arundel County deputies and officers! Yes, we know that changes in policy are needed, but as I understand they are in progress. We need to support our law enforcement officers or there will be nobody to put their life on the line for us and no one to show up when we call 911. Please do not defund our policemen!	
Chelsea Yeager	115 lockleven dr	Severna park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I oppose blindly supporting law enforcement. I have both been a victim to and witnessed abusive and violent behavior from the AA.Co police force. I love the police for helping the community, but this type of support does not, in my view, keep law enforcement grounded in working for the people. We have seen multiple videos of aaco pd displaying abusive and violent behavior, like many other law enforcement agencies in this country. We need to keep a critical eye on those who protect and serve so that ALL citizens of aaco are safe, both from crime and the police.	
Thomas mock	7895 Jason's Landing way	Severn	21144	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	We need to support our brave police officers. They risk their lives for us every day!	
John Jasen	1127 Holmespun Drive	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose		YES
Mairin Corasaniti	1 Fetter Lane	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	As a lifelong resident of Anne Arundel County, I do not support Resolution 47-20, and I urge our council not to pass it. I oppose this resolution for two main reasons. The primary reason is that this resolution does nothing for residents of Anne Arundel County. I do not understand why the time and energy of the Council, as paid for by the taxpayer, is being spent on a resolution "expressing gratitude" to government employees for doing the jobs they signed up to do. I cannot see how this resolution benefits your constituents, even those who are members of the police. Secondly, this resolution is effectively a slap in the face to the many Anne Arundel County residents who have faced the worst sides of our police force and who desperately wish for our police force to be held accountable for excessive force and inappropriate conduct. The Council cannot profess ignorance and say that they merely wish to "thank our county's finest," when measures such as these serve to bolster an entity like the police and culturally prevent criticism of that entity. If individual residents of the county wish to thank individual police officers for services rendered, then that is their business. But the Council should not do so, especially when the critical condition mentioned in the resolution- that "the duty of law enforcement is to enforce the law equally and in a fair and just manner without partiality, prejudice, or discrimination"- is not currently being met in Anne Arundel County. To suggest that it is erases decades of discriminatory practices and conduct.	
eual conley	157 waldo rd	pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	We support our men and women in blue. The far left need to live on their own island. That way they can do whatever they want. Just leave the people on the right alone!! Who do they call when they're in trouble and need emergency help? the social worker!!	
Susan J. Haines	158 Grandview CT. 158 Grandvie	Pasadena	21122	Yes	S. Haines	Resolution 47-20:	Support	Our Law Enforcement Officers are the best!! Without them where would we be? We would be living in a state of bedlum and unrest. I support our officers 100%.	

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Susan Chaisson	221 Lower Magothy Beach Road	Severna Park	21146	No	WISE	Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	WISE only opposes 1 small section of the resolution. WISE women of Maryland, with a membership of over 700 women residing in Anne Arundel County writes to oppose Resolution 47-20 as written. The specific issue is the language in paragraphs 1 and 6 that states that there are "efforts to delegitimize the police." This language is inflammatory, misleading and unnecessary. One imagines that this language was inserted in response to repeated and reasonable requests by citizens to increase transparency, for collaboration between communities and the police and to train and work tirelessly to achieve fair and unbiased policing. The concerns of citizens are legitimate, just and based on personal experiences and facts. This relevant article was in the New York Times today: A Watchdog Accused Officers of Serious Misconduct. Few Were Punished. https://www.nytimes.com/2020/11/15/nyregion/ccrb-nyc-police-misconduct.html?referringSource=articleShare . "An analysis by The New York Times found that the N.Y.P.D. has reduced or rejected recommendations for stiff discipline of officers in about 71 percent of 6,900 serious misconduct charges." We know that these problems exist everywhere. These findings support efforts by citizens to improve policing and accountability in all communities. The citizens of Anne Arundel County are not trying to delegitimize police and there is no need for an assertion that they are. What we are trying to do is to call on county officials and the police to work collaboratively with impacted communities towards increased transparency, and fair and unbiased policing. A more transparent police department increases community trust and thereby makes for increased safety for all. This is the language we request to be added to the resolution along with the deletion of the needless, "efforts to delegitimize the police." Thank you for your consideration. WISE	
Kathryn Kirby	658 KENSINGTON AVE	Severna Park	21146	Yes	USAA	Resolution 47-20:	Support	We are long-time residents of Anne Arundel County and are confused as to why it would be controversial for the County Council of Anne Arundel County to express its support and appreciation for our law enforcement officers. There is room for improvement in all professions; we can't imagine that the County Council would refuse to commend the teachers, any other state or county employees, businesses of any size, the huge contingent of federal workers or really any other profession. Please let us know why this is controversial, we are totally serious, we are concerned. Kathryn and James L. Kirby and family	
Emma Dye	8091 Solley Road			Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	This bill will not help Maryland at all to progress in the direction we need to be. This bill is just praising cops for the way things are ran now which is far from good. This bill will make it harder to address and fight against the police brutality seen in Maryland. We should be an example of how policing should be done but there is still a lot of police brutality in the Anne Arundel County area. I have met with officers and they want to know how to end the communities lack of trust in police and this bill will only hurt the change we need to see. The cops need to give back to the community, not blame individual behaviors on the community and start to stereotype and judge the community they serve. This is how brutality happens and we do not need to praise the cops of the bare minimum of the job they were hired to do. This bill is not good. Support the cops by training and educating them more. Do not support them by giving them a slap on the wrist when they do wrong. In my healthcare job, I would be fired for some of the things the Anne Arundel police get away with.	
Dr. Abbie Ellicott	682 Dill Ct	Severna Park	21146	Yes	N/A	Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	?I am writing to provide testimony regarding Anne Arundel County Resolution 47-20 and the amendment proposed by Lisa Rodvien. I have lived and worked in Severna Park for 25 years. I support and appreciate our police. Law enforcement officers have incredibly difficult jobs and they deserve our support and respect. However, like many others, I recognize that there are serious problems with our system of policing that need to be rectified. I am writing to oppose AA County Council Resolution 47-20 as it is currently written and to support the amendment proposed by Lisa Rodvien. As currently written, the resolution is supporting: "law enforcement agencies and their leaders, officers, and deputies who serve the communities of Anne Arundel County, Maryland and disapproving the efforts to delegitimize the honorable profession of law enforcement." The wording "disapproving the efforts to delegitimize the honorable profession of law enforcement" is highly problematic and must be amended. Here's why. Advocates who are asking for changes in policing are not seeking to delegitimize police. We are advocating for transparency and fairness in law enforcement. The current wording in the resolution is inaccurate and inflammatory. It conveys a divisive polemic that exacerbates an "us versus them" mentality that is detrimental to our community. It does not accurately reflect the changes that are being advocated. We are asking for changes in policing that would empower police by giving them the resources necessary to effectively do their jobs- Including training, body cameras, and fair compensation packages. We want civilian review boards which ultimately will help police to do a better job and will foster trust in our police. We want EVERYONE in our community to know that police officers are committed to keeping them safe and protected. I simply want fair, unbiased policing that works for everyone. Please amend the resolution so that it accurately and fairly conveys what is being requested in terms of changes in law enforcement. Sincerely, Abbie M. Ellicott 682 Dill Ct Severna Park MD 21146 410-598-8955	
James Blaser	710 Oar Lane	Deale	20751	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	There needs to be a fundamental restructuring of police in the United States. Accountability of law enforcement should come from the outside, from the citizens, not within the police force itself.	
Kenneth Szekretar (Ken Sr)	2618 Vantage Cove	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Please support our police. YOU might need them if your Lyft driver won't close his windows.	
Mona	2618 vantage cove	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Honor and respect our hardworking responders	
Marcia Lee Diehl	1431 Millwood Court	Annapolis	21409-5436	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	To Whom It May Concern: As a 29 year resident of Anne Arundel County, I have had the need to call upon the services of both the Anne Arundel County Police Department as well as the Sheriff's Department a couple of times. They have been a God send when I needed to use their services and they have always been courteous, prompt, helpful, resolute, and essential for the times I have needed to give them my calls. The current cultural climate is very troubling to me. Certain supposed elected officials in some states and jurisdictions are either disbanding their entire law enforcement apparatus, or are severely limiting their law enforcement capabilities choosing instead to send untrained social workers to deal with people in very volatile and hostile situations. This is very dangerous to both the social workers as well as the victims/perpetrators who might possibly be needed to be dealt with in a defensive way to de-escalate potential violence or death. I am appalled at the very thought that our own County Council members are seriously considering doing this exact same irresponsible and foolish tactic. To undermine the county's full support of all our Law Enforcement agencies and personnel by labeling the support of our police as "controversial" is the most ignorant and ridiculous position I have ever heard in my life. There is nothing controversial about law enforcement. There is, however, a lot of controversy about lawlessness...the very kind that our County Council members appear to be condoning and sliding toward. I am sending you this testimony that as a law abiding taxpayer who has paid and currently still pays the salary of every Law Enforcement Officer countywide. I also want to remind each and everyone of you on the County Council that I also contribute to pay your salaries. Per my right as a taxpaying citizen in good standing in this county and state, I implore you to not change one word of Resolution 47-20. Please do not waste anymore time over this Resolution and pass it immediately and with a non-partisan and resounding unanimous vote. Thank you very much. Marcia Diehl	

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william david worrall	816 boatswain way	annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Not supporting this resolution sends the message that you do not support the police. We have seen what happens in other communities where the local politicians do not support the police- low morale, early retirements, increased use of sick leave, limited 911 response, etc. And who suffers? All of us!	
Christopher Moore, Sr.	1070 Cayer Dr.	Glen Burnie	21061	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support		YES
Robert Blaser	710 Oar Lane	Deale	20751	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	Policing is an important aspect of public safety but there needs to be greater and independent oversight of policing activities as well as acknowledgement on the part of law enforcement leadership that this independent oversight is necessary so that policing protects all citizens equally.	
Linda Zahn	100 Lahinch Drive	Millersville	21108	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	The people of Anne Arundel County rely on our law enforcement professionals to be there when needed. We're proud to have men and women trained to protect and serve our citizens, often putting themselves in harms way to do so. I support Resolution 47-20.	
Susan C. Perrotta	2576 Glen Cove	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support		
Deborah Reid	606 Oakland Hills Dr Apt 301	Arnold	21012	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	Whie I agree that the law enforcement professionals need a lot more support than they currently receive, support does not equate to lack of accountability. In fact accountability will help drive the changes needed to get the justice system and LEOs the support they need. Covering up or reducing awareness is like putting a bandaid on a festering wound. LEOs need better pay, less strenuous shift schedules, less mandated overtime, restriction on voluntary overtime (data shows the too much work reduces our capacity to do it well), empathy training, more de-escalation training and non violent communication training as well as more psychological support for the horrors and trauma they deal with everyday. They are not machines and yet we expect them to perform perfectly no matter what the circumstance. We cannot expect humans to treat other humans well when they are being dehumanized every day by the current police and judicial system.	
Carol Smith	1022 Jigger Ct.	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I support the police and in many ways depend on them for safety and security. I can do that because I'm white. My black friends have not had that experience, nor have African-Americans in general. Nor have other non-white groups. I also support reforms that police departments across the country must be open to implementing in order to be a force of safety and security for all people. There are too many examples of wrong, harmful, even deadly actions by police officers against non-whites to give all officers a blanket seal of approval. To pass a resolution that unconditionally supports law enforcement no matter what and doesn't brook any effort to make necessary reforms is just plain wrong. This resolution should not pass--at least not in its present form. It needs some work in order to be acceptable.	
Michelle Koul	312 Bowline Ct	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I oppose the resolution as written. In paragraphs 1 and 6, the words imply that there is widespread anti-police sentiment, which is inappropriate and factually incorrect. These words turn a simple resolution of support into a political dog whistle. I encourage the council to consider amending this resolution, or voting against it altogether. Delegitimization is an incorrect characterization of the police reforms being proposed. This resolution as written will not ultimately support law enforcement, as creates more division. If Councilman Volke is willing to give up the political points he scores with these words, Sheriff Fredericks could get his resolution with the full support of his community. Michelle Koul	
steven waddy	p.o. box 6210	annapolis	21401	No	NAACP	Resolution 47-20:	Oppose		YES
Chris Rajcsok	3068 Tudor hall road	RivA	21140	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support		
Rebecca Forte	752 Dividing Rd	Severna Park, I	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	No Position	I find the timing of this bill to be arbitrary and random. This bill does not come as a celebration of testing the backlog of untested rape kits in Maryland, nor as a celebration of any particular milestone with regards to the solving of unsolved cases in Anne Arundel County. It is not a celebration of decreased opioid deaths in the county, nor of successful deescalation trainings. Another similar bill supporting black lives comes to mind. This bill came at a specific time- after an Anne Arundel County resident had killed Lieutenant Richard Collins III. The timing was prescient and very relevant. The timing of this bill is just to celebrate... the existence of our law enforcement agencies as far as I can tell. Since the timing of this resolution is arbitrary I'd like to take this time to note some other agencies equally worth celebrating. Our fire fighters are worth celebrating and valuing as they save lives. Our teachers are worth celebrating as they continue to teach and mentor while constantly adapting. Our doctors and nurses are worth celebrating as they go in to save lives against all odds day after day. And perhaps most relevantly - our social workers and mental health professionals are worth celebrating. It is these professionals that are best equipped to help when our law enforcement professionals encounter situations with drug abuse. They are best equipped to help homeless individuals find housing and resources. They can help people with psychological problems get the help they need and not waste law enforcement officers time. Really valuing our social workers and mental health professionals will better allow our law enforcement agencies to do what they do best- solve crime. And then ... when they hit those crime-solving benchmarks, we can come back to celebrate them... at a far less random time.	
Renee Cantori	105 Eastern Ave	Annapolis	21403	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I would like to oppose resolution 47-20 as it is written. I want to also say, however, that I would gladly support a resolution in support of the police if it were worded differently. First of all, I would like the phrase 'efforts to delegitimize the police' to be removed. When I first saw this phrase, my hair immediately stood up on end, and I asked myself where on earth did that phrase come from and why did the main author of the resolution feel it was important to say that, and who was he alluding to, who was he saying was delegitimizing the police? It's a vague statement and leaves itself open to people inferring that certain parties, for example maybe BLM protesters might be the ones doing the 'delegitimizing', when, in fact, NONE of the people at the protests that I've been to have had that as a goal. In fact, many of the protest organizers have invited the police to assist with the protests and marches and to participate in the conversation against police bias and brutality. Protesters have merely sought for more transparency in the form of police body cameras, civilian review boards, and release of police misconduct records, for example. Asking for this is not disrespecting the police, it's giving the police more transparency, and more transparency increases the community's trust in the police which contributes to a more effective police force. Additionally, seeking to pass a resolution at this time with a misleading reference to delegitimizing the police but without even acknowledging the reason for the community's concern is like a slap in the face to impacted communities. Therefore, remove the 'delegitimization' phrase and add verbiage acknowledging the national conversation on police bias and brutality and a desire from the community to seek police collaboration with community efforts towards fair and unbiased policing.	
James Gooding	67 Chautaugua Road	Arnold	21012	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I will always support the rule of law and those that protest us and enforce it.	

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Debra Jasen	1127 Holmespun Drive	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	In regards to Resolution 47-20, here are my complaints: Line 3: The word "delegitimize" is undefined. Delegitimize is defined by Webster as "to diminish or destroy the legitimacy, prestige, or authority of," by Dictionary.com as "to remove the legitimate or legal status of," and by Oxford as "withdraw legitimate status or authority from." It seems to me that "delegitimize" could be used to reference removing some power from the police and giving the responsibilities to others, such as in cases involving mental health professionals, social workers, addiction specialists, etc. in dealings with people in crisis. Many refer to this as "defunding the police," when it's better described as "reallocation," and it's a system being used in a number of places throughout the United States. Given the lack of training the police have in interacting with people who are experiencing a mental health crisis, people who are on the autism spectrum, people who are dealing with addiction, etc. it's irresponsible to not even consider having those who professionally deal with these issues be the ones who handle them. Lines 9 and 10: While it's the duty of LE to enforce the law equally, etc, we know that law enforcement officers don't always do their duty in those regards. The assumption that they do is irresponsible, as well as disrespectful to those who have had different experiences in Anne Arundel County, as well as in Maryland at large. Lines 12-15: What "best practices, and beneficial policy changes" have been put forth by the A.A. Co. Sheriff's Office, etc? Is there an expectation in this Resolution that the County Council accept any practices and changes put forth by LE that the LE claim are beneficial? What if members of the County Council support policy changes that LE disagree with? Lines 19-22: There are more assumptions here, and it should not be ignored that many people in Anne Arundel County have not experienced respect by LE. Line 24: Again, what does "delegitimize" mean in this Resolution? Additionally, what qualifies as "harassment" and "insults"? This sounds like a violation of freedom of speech. Finally, Lines 31-32: Why can't the Resolution only say that the County Council expresses its support and appreciation, rather than include the many assumptions and undefined words of the rest of the Resolution? I oppose the adoption of this Resolution for all of these reasons.	
Linda D Cox	2500 Coxshire Lane	Davidsonville	21035	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support		
Lynn Wilson	1401 Isted Road	Glen Burnie	21060	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	I support our Anne Arundel County police officers. My house was burglarized twice in 12 months and the officers were so kind and supportive of me. We need to support our police. I pray our county does the right thing!	
Sarah Blaser	710 Oar Lane	Deale	20751	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I am in opposition to this bill as it is written currently. However, I would be open to an amendment that acknowledges the commitment of those in the profession of law enforcement, but also holds them to a high standard of accountability and leaves open the opportunity to those who have been harmed by the police to the maximum amount of transparency. They should be able to tell their stories and have their complaints be thoroughly investigated. I also believe that harm reduction to the citizenry needs to be a large focus of all law enforcement and that reallocation of funding towards this end should be a priority. I do not feel that this is the appropriate time in the history of our country, or county, to put forth this resolution as it stands now. This is a time for focusing on the pandemic and the impact that it has had on our educational and health systems. In addition, in light of the national movement to focus on the actual unlawful force and violence of law enforcement, I question the timing of this resolution. Shouldn't the county be putting energy into standing up against undue use of force from the police, and trying to heal the relationships between the police and the citizenry? Perhaps the resolution should be more about what kinds of changes that are needed to law enforcement in our county, before congratulating them.	
Lindsey McIntosh	720 Genessee St	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	Passing a resolution to glorify an institution that has proven to be severely flawed when there are other things more deserving of attention and legislation (the pandemic, education, etc.), is a brazen decision. Policing does/can have its place in the community, but before political kudos are granted, and for the integrity of the profession, individuals and leadership in the profession should be on the record as being amenable to reform, and to acknowledging/rectifying the following (in no particular order): 1) there too much responsibility on their plate as an institution 2) military weapons nor excessive use of force should not be used on an unarmed, non-threatening civilian 3) that it is unethical/immoral for police departments to be solely responsible for holding themselves accountable 4) there is deep-seated unconscious bias (and racism in general) at the individual and institutional level 5) it's concerning that people who not live among the people they are tasked with policing (especially since interactions with the police are often at the most vulnerable and/or dangerous points in peoples' lives) 6) there is a need to do more building of rapport and spending of time with the citizens they police outside of responding to a call 6a) understanding the history of and current neighborhood dynamics is crucial to knowing what is normal and what is "off" about an area	
Sean Genest	409 Baltic Ave	Glen Burnie	21016	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	100% - We should need a Resolution for common sense.	
Dalton Leonard	630 W Bayfront Road	Lothian	20711	Yes	NA	Resolution 47-20:	Support	Thanks to guidance from our police force I have grown up to be the man I am today. Support our police agency through this time and that you should as well. I and others will make note of who is in support and give our backing when it comes election time.	
Diane Hedlund	281 Sigma Drive	Harwood	20776	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Our law enforcement officers put their lives on the line every day for us. They work hard to keep us safe.	
Laura Wiegmann	8694 Scorton Harbour	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	In our society, people groups should be supported equally. That is not to say that we should sanction it when people get violent in their defensiveness. In America, many have become so adamant about their own personal rights that others' rights become completely immaterial to them. And some who are law abiding peaceful citizens are so worried about offending someone who might become violent that there has arisen a failure to do the right thing and support those that uphold order and decency. In many ways we have become a fearful society. In situations where violence can happen, sometimes things will go wrong, and people are imperfect. When people behave inappropriately, it can and should be dealt with on a person by person basis. However, to refuse to support law enforcement because a few have gone rogue, or to support the attitudes of individuals who regularly display an attitude of lawlessness is to choose to be a society of lawlessness. It is a step away from an orderly and law abiding citizenry, and towards anarchy and the folks that are most likely to cause it. Please support this resolution. It is not sanctioning maltreatment of anyone. It is only giving some support and encouragement to the people who volunteer to go into ugly and dangerous situations for the sake of preserving our safety and liberty.	
Melissa Douglas Hopple	6200 Solomons Island Road	Tracys Landing	20779	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Law enforcement not only functions to hold criminals accountable, but it functions to protect our rights. Imagine a society where there is nobody to call when someone breaks into your home, takes your property without right, assaults you, etc. It is ever so fashionable to blame law enforcement for all of society's problems. Nobody wants to look in the mirror and examine their own behavior. Nobody wants to hold criminals accountable anymore. They want to tiptoe around them and expect law enforcement to do the dirty work of dealing with violence while making it look peaceful. That is not how it works. We need to support our law enforcement if we want to continue to live in a free society. There is always room for improvement, but you will never hire ans retain the best if you continue to degrade the profession. Nobody will want that job. It is unfortunate we need a resolution affirming our commitment to our law enforcement officers, but this is where we are.	

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William Matthew Love	490 Fairoak Drive	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Our law enforcement officers in Anne Arundel County are among the best in the country and we are very proud of the work they do, and the professionalism they exhibit in doing it. The current climate of negative press and lack of respect towards those who have sworn a duty to protect and serve the citizens is not only detrimental to the officers and their families, but also to 'we the people'. We count on these professionals to be there for us when we need them and IF we are not there to support them, it will be harder and harder to recruit the best men and women for the Job. I ask for your support of Resolution 47-20 to make a statement in support of law enforcement.	
Nathaniel Hollis	1059 Springhill Way	Gambrills	21054	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	The fact a resolution like this is even needed to begin with is sad. That it's somehow controversial is insane. Now more than ever, your law enforcement officers need all the support they can get. The job has never before been so difficult, scrutinized, and misunderstood. There are so many outright lies being spread and the divide is growing. The longer this nationwide war on cops goes on, the more society will pay for years to come. Officers are increasingly afraid to do their jobs. Many are retiring or just quitting. Quality applicants are getting harder to come by. Crime and unrest will continue to worsen while the General Assembly is poised to introduce more damaging legislation this year. The Anne Arundel County Police department is not the problem. They are well ahead of the curve when it comes to community relations, training, equipment, deescalation techniques, and mental health resources. They lead the way and are an example for how modern law enforcement should be done! Don't let a vocal misguided minority of citizens sabotage this simple showing of public support. They do not speak for the vast majority.	
Kenneth Cikanovich	1108 red harvest road	Gambrills	21054	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	There is not a day that goes by that we shouldn't honor and respect those that pledge their lives to keep us safe. The men and women of our police force go out everyday not knowing if they will be coming home. And yet many have forgotten the sacrifice they make on our behalf, we as a society should be ashamed at what we have become. Do not give into the hypocrisy of the left who demonize the police until they desperately need them. Stand firm pass this resolution and honor our boys and girls in blue.	
Jane Cox	300 Shady Lane	Pasadena	21122	No		Resolution 47-20:	Support		
Patricia	5524 Gloucester St	Churchton	20733	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	We must support our law enforcement. My brother is a retired State Trooper who almost died performing his duties. I know how difficult their job is. Our support and appreciation is a critical component to their confidence, courage, stamina, and willingness to serve and protect. Thank you to our law enforcement and first responders for giving so much and risking so much.	
Holly Hepting	508 Sylview Drive	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	LAW ENFORCEMENT PUTS THEIR LIVES ON THE LINE EVERY SINGLE DAY! THEY MUST BE SUPPORTED.	
Randy Hart	8242 Fairwood Dr	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Please keep as submitted, no amending.	
Lisa R Hart	8242 Fairwood Dr	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support		
BRYAN Malar	2951 Beaver Brook Court	PASADENA	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	We citizens in Anne Arundel County have one the best police organizations in the country!!! They are fully accredited and deserve the best and our support, just like they risk their lives everyday for me and my family as well as the citizens of this great county!!!	
Charles Yocum	8546 Main Avenue	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Anne Arundel Co is blessed to have some of the finest law enforcement officers in not only the state, but nation. It is imperative we express that fact through support as provided in this resolution. There can be nothing controversial in doing so.	
AMY LEAHY	712 Monmouth Ave	Severna Park	21146	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Our law enforcement officers in Anne Arundel County are among the best in the country and we are very proud of the work they do, and the professionalism they exhibit in doing it. The current climate of negative press and lack of respect towards those who have sworn a duty to protect and serve the citizens is not only detrimental to the officers and their families, but also to "we the people". We count on these professionals to be there for us when we need them and IF we are not there to support them, it will be harder and harder to recruit the best men and women for the Job. I ask for your support of Resolution 47-20 to make a statement in support of law enforcement.	
Jamie Hurman-Cougnet	1091 Vena Lane	Pasadena	21122	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	2020 has been a tough year for most of us. On top of a worldwide pandemic, horrendous acts of bad cops have been highlighted in our news media for months. But, we,, the citizens of Anne Arundel County are blessed to have some of the finest law enforcement officers in the world. Our county law enforcement officers never stop training, learning and developing their skills. They work hard every day for EVERY citizen of our county. They are role models for the youth of our county. Showing our support as a community for our outstanding law enforcement officers and the services they provide every day shouldn't be controversial. It should be obvious. I am in full support of Resolution 47-20 Support for Local Law Enforcement.	
Cynthia Morgan	6274 Franklin Gibson Rd	Tracy's Landing	20779	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Support	Resolution 47-20 I urge the County Council to support our law enforcement agencies by passing this resolution.	
Daniel Kavanaugh	2016 Gov Thomas Bladen Way, Apt 101	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	No Position	This resolution as written rings hollow since Councilman Volke's Republican Party at the national level is actively engaged in defunding the police by blocking stimulus funding for state and local governments that would benefit state and local police departments who continue to be on the front lines during this pandemic.	
Melody Hicks	1632 MILLSTONE DR	EDGEWATER	21037-1944	Yes	N/A	Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	This resolution was submitted under the assumption that protocol would be bypassed, which is ridiculous and disappointing. This resolution was made at the request of a ranking law enforcement officer that is on the ballot for an profession-related leadership position just days before an already immensely polarized election - also insanely ridiculous. This resolution specifies particular departments and was submitted while there is active litigation between the AACo PD and county resident due to behavior by an officer that mirrors that of the officer that resulted in the loss of George Floyd's life! This resolution blatantly disregards the fact that countless county residents of all ethnicities have made it clear through organized events, individual correspondence, community and interpersonal discussion that they hold valid concerns about the "blue wall of silence" in general when "one bad apple spoils the bunch" with their behavior. Policing does/can have its place in the community, but before political kudos are granted, and for the integrity of the profession, individuals and leadership in the profession should be on the record as being amenable to reform, and to acknowledging/rectifying the following (in no particular order): 1) there too much responsibility on their plate as an institution 2) military weapons nor excessive use of force should not be used on an unarmed, non-threatening civilian 3) that it is unethical/immoral for police departments to be solely responsible for holding themselves accountable 4) there is deep-seated unconscious bias (and racism in general) at the individual and institutional level 5) it's concerning that people who not live among the people they are tasked with policing (especially since interactions with the police are often at the most vulnerable and/or dangerous points in peoples' lives) 6) there is a need to do more building of rapport and spending of time with the citizens they police outside of responding to a call 6a) understanding the history of and current neighborhood dynamics is crucial to knowing what is normal and what is "off" about an area I think an amended version to this resolution might be an option, recognizing the efforts of the police department, while removing reference to any "insults or harassment." How can you define insult or harassment? I'm very concerned that my right to protest or speak out about policing concerns will now become a legal issue with this resolution as it is currently written.	

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Full Name	Home Address	City	Zip Code	Representing	What organization or whom do you represent?	Legislation	Position	Remarks	Attachment
Julianna Greenberg	2013 Governor Thomas Bladen Way Apt 204	Annapolis	21401	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I oppose this resolution both as it is currently written and in principal. After seeing the video of Anne Arundel Co Officers using excessive force against Mr. Wedington during a traffic stop, I can wholeheartedly say that I do not support our county's officers. Mr. Wedington repeatedly asked the officers to let him exit his vehicle of his own accord and the officers continued to drag him out, using excessive force. This incident is not isolated, as we have repeatedly seen officers around the nation using excessive force against the people, most often people of color, that they are sworn to protect. I find it troubling that during a year of national outcry and call for police reforms, my county council is proposing this resolution which ignores the concerns expressed by constituents. I do not wish for my representative to offer support of this resolution which does not at any point call for any additional de-escalation training, any additional mental health services for officers or constituents, or for that matter, ANY of the much needed reforms that have been called for on a national scale and not implemented in our county.	
Renee Stone Abell	211 SALTGRASS DR	GLEN BURNIE	21060	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	The resolution insinuates that citizens taking issue with lack of transparency (accountability) and calling for a more humane (harm reductive) approach (which can also include reallocating funding) to policing is a threat or affront to the individuals that choose to work in law enforcement. It could be appropriate to say this in response to specific incidents that really did target these agencies. Otherwise, singling them out from among all the public employees who serve the county's residents--health care workers, public health officials, sanitation workers, firefighters, mental health professionals--raises "law and order" above our health and safety. When we applaud heroic actions we must do so in ways that do not give cover for shameful ones, such as by making blanket statements lacking nuance and associating law enforcement with heroism. Please make sure our County Council does not make such a statement. Thank you, Renee Stone Abell	
Abby Thornton Hailey	1112 Saint Stephen's Church Rd.	Crownsville	21032	Yes		Resolution 47-20:	Oppose	I have concerns about Resolution 47-20 as currently worded. First, the timing concerns me: this resolution was submitted while there is active litigation between the County Police Department and county resident due to behavior by an officer that mirrors that of the officer that resulted in the loss of George Floyd's life. It also blatantly disregards the fact that countless county residents of all ethnicities have made it clear through organized events, individual correspondence, community and interpersonal discussion that they hold valid concerns about the current model of policing in our neighborhood and country. I believe policing absolutely has its place in the community, but alongside of supporting our officers, we need to work to strengthen the integrity of the profession. We need to shift things so that the police are not responsible for so many areas in our community, so military weapons and excessive force are not used, so there is greater accountability for actions taken by police, so deep-seated unconscious bias at the individual and institutional level is addressed, and there is more focus on community policing--building of rapport and spending of time with the citizens they police outside of responding to a call. I am opposed to this resolution as currently worded, but open to an amendment that acknowledges those in the profession, but makes it so the resolution doesn't insinuate or overtly deem that police are threatened or diminished when citizens rightly take issue with a lack of transparency (accountability) and call for a more humane (harm reductive) approach (which can also include reallocating funding) to policing. I believe such calls from concerned citizens are not insults, but are essential and an important part of our democracy. Thank you for your consideration, and I hope you'll work towards a resolution that reflects the views of your wider constituency.	
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NOTE: Testimony in italics was submitted on a bill without a public hearing on Nov. 16.									



DRAFT

To: Anne Arundel County Council

Bill Title: Bill No. 94-20

Date: November 16, 2020

Position: Opposed unless amended

This testimony is offered on behalf of Maryland Multi-Housing Association (MMHA). We are a professional trade association established in 1996, whose members consists of owners and managers of more than 210,000 rental housing homes in over 870 apartment communities. Our members house over 556,000 residents of the State of Maryland and we have 250 associate member companies who supply goods and services to the multi-housing industry. Lastly, MMHA members manage 114 apartment communities with over 30,590 units in Anne Arundel County.

MMHA appreciates the ongoing discussions we have had with the Sponsor and his staff. We understand the genesis of Bill No 94-20 stems from nuisances occurring at hotels and motels and are consequently impacting the nearby residents' quality of life. We support Councilman Andrew Pruski's efforts to root out these public nuisances but want to ensure that the unintended consequences do not result in unjustifiably impacting the multi-family industry.

Bill Summary: With the Sponsor amendments offered, Bill No. 94-20 defines a "public nuisance" as a property where five or more separate and specific crimes have occurred and arrests were made within a 30-day period. The bill prohibits a property owner from allowing a property to be a public nuisance, and the owner is subject to enforcement and fines whether or not the owner had knowledge of the public nuisance. The Police Department is required to notify the property owner of these public nuisances. The County may pursue violations of the prohibition through the filing of court proceedings. As amended, the bill exempts a residential property owner as a "public nuisance" if they have commenced a breach of lease proceedings under 8-402.1 of the Real Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. A violation is also a Class A civil offense which, under § 9-2-101 of the County Code, carries with it a fine of up to \$10,000 for the first and any subsequent violations.

Industry Concerns: MMHA has the following concerns with Bill No. 94-20:

- **Definition of Property:** The bill fails to define "property." In the multi-family context, this raises a number of questions. Is it a building? Designated community? Specific address and unit? Without differentiating each unit, MMHA members could have up to 600 residents living in a given "property." A multi-



building apartment community, in this scenario, might often be deemed a “public nuisance” by virtue of a lack of clarification in the meaning of “property” and due to the significant population housed. Again, without clearly defining “property,” multi-building apartment communities could face great confusion in the various Police reports and communication with the Police Department. MMHA urges adoption of the attached amendment.

- **Fair Housing Violation:** Under Bill No. 94-20, we are clearly concerned that the Councilman’s intent to resolve the public nuisances has the consequence of treating the multi-family housing industry differently without justification in violation of the Fair Housing Act. In a memo dated September 13, 2016 HUD’s Office of General Counsel made clear that public nuisances ordinances, such as Bill No. 94-20 could violate the Fair Housing Act having an unjustified discriminatory effect (see Office of General Counsel Guidance on Application of Fair Housing Act Standards to the Enforcement of Local Nuisance and Crime-Free Housing Ordinances Against Victims of Domestic Violence, Other Crime Victims, and Others Who Require Police or Emergency Services). The guidance does provide a three step analysis to determine whether a local government’s enforcement of a nuisance or crime-free housing ordinance results in a discriminatory effect in violation of the Fair Housing Act.
- **Existing Law:** Specific to Anne Arundel County, a remedy for nuisance properties already exists in the Real Property Article Section 14-125.1 of the Maryland Annotated Code. If communities and the Police seek to eliminate these nuisance properties and abate, they can work with the State’s Attorney’s Office and avail themselves of injunctive or other equitable relief.

We recognize the Sponsor’s motivation in introducing Bill No. 94-20 and MMHA greatly appreciates his willingness to listen to our concerns and offer resolutions. The industry remains concerned with the absence of a definition for “property.” Given the complexities involved in multi-family housing, we respectfully urge the County Council to adopt MMHA’s suggested amendment. Unless the amendment is adopted, MMHA unfortunately must oppose Bill No 94-20.

If you have any further questions, please contact:

Aaron J. Greenfield, Director of Government Affairs, 410.446.1992



Council Bill No. 94-20

AMENDMENT NO.1

On page 1, line 21, after “SECTION,” include “PROPERTY” MEANS A SPECIFIC ADDRESS AND IN A MULTIFAMILY DWELLING MEANS A SPECIFIC ADDRESS AND UNIT NUMBER.”

MHILA
Maryland Hotel
Lodging Association

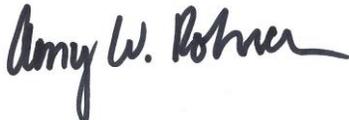
**Statement of Support with Amendments
Anne Arundel County Council Bill No. 94-20
Public Safety – Public Nuisances - Prohibition**

The Maryland Hotel Lodging Association supports the intent of Bill No. 94-20. No good operator welcomes nuisance activity at their hotel, especially when it may impact the health and safety of employees and guests. We highly value cooperation between operators and law enforcement when assistance is needed, and our industry benefits from effective abatement of all nuisances contained in this bill.

As introduced, the owner of a property that is deemed a public nuisance may be subject to enforcement and fines “regardless of whether the owner had any knowledge of the public nuisance.” (Lines 31-32) We feel the bill would be improved with an amendment adding a “notice and cure provision”. While it is hard to imagine a scenario where an owner would not have awareness, it is important for due process to occur.

We anticipate Councilman Pruski will introduce such an amendment and appreciate the opportunity he provided for feedback in advance of the bill hearing.

Thank you for your consideration.



Amy Rohrer, CAE
President & CEO



TESTIMONY TO THE ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY COUNCIL

RE: Resolution No. 47-20 Resolution supporting law enforcement agencies and their leaders, officers, and deputies who serve the communities of Anne Arundel County, Maryland and disapproving the efforts to delegitimize the honorable profession of law enforcement

POSITION: Oppose as introduced

DATE: November 16, 2020

BY: Alfa Stevens, President LWVAAC

As a fundamental principle, the League of Women Voters believes in the individual liberties established in the Constitution of the United States. In its public policy, the League works to protect individual rights, facilitate citizen participation in government decision-making and promote an open governmental system that is representative, accountable and responsive.

We commend the County Council for providing County residents the opportunity to respond to proposed Resolution 47-20. There are communities who have a significant lack of trust when it comes to law enforcement and its officers, all the more reason for transparency in publicizing this measure to the broadest audience and welcoming public comment.

The League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County (LWVAAC) extends utmost respect, appreciation and support for all those who serve honorably in the law enforcement profession, to include the leaders, officers, and deputies who serve the communities of Anne Arundel County. Just as strongly, we support and advocate for the Constitutionally-guaranteed rights of private citizens who seek governmental transparency and accountability.

It is unfortunate that efforts to reform policing are seen as an attack on law enforcement rather than as a good faith effort to make it better, garner more trust, and build and strengthen police-community relationships. The Constitution doesn't prioritize the rights of one category of citizens over another. Nor should our County Council.

It is our collective responsibility to ensure that all persons living and working in Anne Arundel County are treated with respect and free from harassment, insults, threats and violence. The "efforts, best practices, and beneficial policy changes that have been put forth and adopted" as referenced in the resolution may well serve as models in our County's effort to effect needed reform and accountability.

Community response to this resolution demonstrates that there's more work to be done. LWVAAC urges County Council to vote against Resolution 47-20 as introduced.

Support _____ Oppose X No position _____

In regard to Resolution 47-20, a RESOLUTION supporting law enforcement agencies, I am opposed, for the following reasons:

First, we are in the middle of a pandemic, and our law enforcement officers are not the only ones on the front lines -- even among county employees, teachers, first responders, sanitation workers, other public works personnel, animal control, and park staff come to mind. Will the Council include a resolution acknowledging other front line support during every session, until COVID-19 has passed?

Second, I'm opposed to this resolution, based on the wording, such as (lines 2-3) "disapproving the efforts to delegitimize the honorable profession of law enforcement" and (lines 24-25) "WHEREAS, efforts to delegitimize through harassment, insults, threats, and violence are not compatible with support of the profession of law enforcement ...". As someone who wants greater transparency in policing, who wants greater accountability in our police forces, who wants justice to be served within the police when required -- this language makes clear there is no "us" in resolving these concerns cooperatively, there is "us" (the people) and "them" (the police). Further concerning is the language appears to be an effort to shut down, discredit and delegitimize actual civilian concerns over policing.

Third, I'm opposed to this resolution, because there is no future here. Where is the support for civilian review boards? For greater access to police discipline records? To them being held to account under the justice they claim to serve? To serving within their duty, specifically equality and equity within the law? To them reflecting, learning, responding and growing to meet the changing needs of our county and our society?

In short, I believe this to be a bad resolution -- not intended to uplift our officers, who should be and who should continue to strive to be the best of us, but intended as a political game using the "us" and "them" I alluded to previously as the playing pieces.

John Jasen
Pasadena, MD

Christopher Moore Testimony

To the esteemed members of the Anne Arundel County Council and the citizens they represent:

I write to offer my conditional support for Resolution 47-20, coming before the Council on November 16, 2020. That support is on the condition that the inflammatory paragraph from lines 24-28 be removed.

As a lifelong Arundelite, I've seen our community grow and change. I can honestly say that every single interaction I've had with Anne Arundel County law enforcement has been exceedingly positive and carried out with the utmost professionalism. My brother serves as a chaplain with the force and focuses on community outreach, which I think is a key factor in why we tend to have fewer problems than other jurisdictions.

However, we cannot ignore the reality that not every citizen gets to have that experience with law enforcement. When people talk about defunding the police, they mean to divert funds from buying tanks and military grade weapons to community-based programs that address the sociological aspects of crime.

As in any profession, there are people who aren't very good at their jobs. On a more nefarious level, as warned by the top law enforcement agency in our nation (the FBI), white supremacists have infiltrated law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Protest movements around the country target bad cops and white supremacist infiltrators and have been largely peaceful, in spite of what the outgoing presidential regime likes to portray. The paragraph I mentioned is a blatant swipe at those protest movements and as such, represents an infringement on the 1st amendment rights of those who protest police brutality.

We've arrived at an incredibly polarized point in our nation. We've been conditioned to think in terms of "either/or" rather than "yes/and". Supporting law enforcement doesn't preclude one from speaking out against police brutality. To wit, bad cops make the job more difficult for the 99% of officers who serve with honor and distinction. The paragraph from lines 24-28 takes this resolution from something that could be of unanimous consent to yet another tool of division. I urge the passing of this resolution, but with this paragraph stricken.



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

Anne Arundel County Branch

"Freedom Fighters for a New Century"

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Apostle Larry Thomas

Youth Advisor

Dwaine Brown

Youth & College Division President

Kirsten Lane

November 2, 2020

My name is Steven Waddy and I am a resident of Severn, MD. I am speaking on behalf of President Jacqueline Allsup and the Anne Arundel County NAACP. I am here to speak in opposition to the resolution introduced by Councilman Volke on delegitimizing the honorable profession of law enforcement.

I. DELEGITIMIZATION STEMS FROM POLICE VIGILANTISM AND A BROKEN SYSTEM OF ACCOUNTABILITY

One vigilante cop committing extrajudicial execution, racial profiling, or using unnecessary force, on or off camera, delegitimizes the profession and the rule of law. The Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights for officers who commit murder and brutality delegitimizes the profession through the hypocrisy and double standard that exists in the Maryland code. The use of opaque investigations by State's Attorneys to provide protection to vigilante officers delegitimizes the profession.

The profession is delegitimized when its biggest advocate, the Fraternal Order of Police, supports Donald Trump and his calls for violence against his political opponents and endorses his lies about the communities the police are supposed to serve and protect. The profession is delegitimized when the badge is used as a shield from civilian oversight.

What is the result of this delegitimization? Greater vigilantism among people who have been the victims of crime. Greater vigilantism among the white people whose feelings of resentment have been stoked by their political leaders. An overwhelming apathy towards the mounting bodies of murder victims or criminal acts that go unsolved. More mistrust in the statements and investigations conducted by police.

This resolution itself leaves out the context of our national discussion on the police. The greater context is that the overwhelmingly white legal profession has hollowed out the 4th, 5th, and 8th amendment to allow police to engage in state sponsored execution with little to no punishment, and now is

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threatening the 1st amendment right to object to such behavior.

II. THE CURRENT RESOLUTION WILL LEAD TO FURTHER POLARIZATION OF THE VICTIMS OF RACIAL PROFILING AND CALCIFICATION OF AUTHORITARIANISM ON THE RIGHT

This resolution seeks to only polarize and inflame tension in an already fraught political environment in this country and county. If we are to come together as a county, we need to recognize that escalating tensions with hastily introduced resolutions on the eve of one of the most significant elections in our lifetime is not productive and will only serve to undermine the goodwill between the races.

The officers of this county know that they are supported by and large. In fact, driving on our highways and through our neighborhoods we see a large number of Trump supporters have replaced the American flag with their own version, the Blue Lives Matter or Thin Blue Line flag. The Governor himself made a show of having not one but two of these flags in the Government House.

The Blue Lives Matter movement started as white supremacists and neo-Nazis in Republican garb purposely mocking or trolling the Black Lives Matter twitter hashtag. The Blue Lives Matter movement has morphed into a call for the police to engage in outright murder, racial profiling, egregious brutality, and other acts of violence with impunity.

The flag itself represents a veil. It says don't believe what your eyes see or your ears hear. Be deaf to the cries of innocence by unarmed citizens who are killed by police. Be blind to the fact that the perpetrators violated the constitutional rights of a fellow citizen who happens to be Black. The thin blue line is a blind fold. It is the manifestation of blind nationalism that the KKK loves to use as a shield for its genocidal vigilantism.

III. POLICE ACCOUNTABILITY WILL IMPROVE LEGITIMACY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

This resolution is a veiled attempt at undermining the police accountability movement sweeping the nation. This resolution implies that the idea of police accountability through civilian oversight and investigation is leading to delegitimization of the police, when accountability, transparency, and some sense of remorse for improper use of force, police brutality, false imprisonment, and racial profiling would legitimize them.

The removal of opaque investigations run only by law enforcement would increase legitimacy of the investigations. The removal of a "police only" set of due process laws would end the hypocrisy of the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights and increase legitimacy to law enforcement.

The implementation of never before seen accountability measures would encourage citizens to view the police as a legitimate organization that is capable of enforcing laws equally and without political influence or racist intentions.

We urge a no vote.