

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2023, Legislative Day No. 16

Resolution No. 42-23

Introduced by Mr. Volke, Mr. Smith, Ms. Hummer, and Ms. Rodvien

By the County Council, September 18, 2023

1 RESOLUTION urging the Anne Arundel County Executive to establish a grant  
2 program to assist recovery residences with installing fire suppression systems

3  
4 WHEREAS, a recovery residence is a home that provides alcohol-free and illicit  
5 drug-free housing to individuals with substance-related disorders or addictive  
6 disorders; and

7  
8 WHEREAS, recovery residences that are run safely and effectively provide peer  
9 supported housing that assists recovering individuals in their quest to be drug or  
10 alcohol-free; and

11  
12 WHEREAS, many recovery residences are located in single family dwellings that  
13 were not required to contain fire suppression systems, a vital safety measure for  
14 individuals living in a congregate setting; and

15  
16 WHEREAS, individuals living in recovery residences without fire suppression  
17 systems are at and increased risk of death in the event of a fire, and a fire puts not  
18 only the residents of the facility at risk but also the owners, firefighters, and  
19 community; and

20  
21 WHEREAS, installing fire suppression systems can be time consuming and  
22 expensive however the benefits far outweigh the costs, and one study showed that  
23 from 2017 to 2021, there were 122 successful sprinkler activations in properties  
24 classified as “residential board and care” and where sprinklers were activated, the  
25 average property loss was \$64,042 and the value protected was \$3.8 million (loss  
26 ratio of 1.6%); and

27  
28 WHEREAS, Bill No. 18-22 established the Opioid Abatement Special Revenue  
29 Fund which may be used to support evidence-based interventions such as recovery  
30 residences for overdose prevention and substance use disorder treatment; and

31  
32 WHEREAS, assisting recovery residences with installing fire suppression systems  
33 benefits the occupants, owners, firefighters, and community; now, therefore, be it

34  
35 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That it hereby*  
36 *urges the County Executive to establish a grant program to assist recovery residences with*  
37 *installing fire suppression systems; and be it further*

38  
39 *Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Stuart Pittman, County Executive.*

Resolution No. 42-23

Page No. 2

READ AND PASSED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of October, 2023.

By Order:



Laura Corby  
Administrative Officer

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT RESOLUTION NO. 42-23 IS TRUE AND CORRECT AND DULY ADOPTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY.



Peter I. Smith  
Chair