



COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY
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DAVID MARKS
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January 28, 2020

The Honorable Will Smith
Chairman
Judicial Proceedings Committee
Maryland State Senate
Annapolis, MD 21401-1991

Dear Chairman Smith and members of the committee:

I am writing in support of Senator Chris West's legislation that would broaden the social host ordinance.

I sponsored Baltimore County's social host ordinance in 2016 to reduce unruly disturbances near colleges and universities. As Councilman for the Towson area, the communities near Towson University were particularly impacted by loud parties and other disturbances. The impact was profound. During the 2015-2016 school year, there were 51 complaints about off-campus student gatherings around Towson, according to data provided by Towson University. Two years later, in the 2017-2018 year, there were just 12 complaints.

The social host ordinance is working. It holds landlords and tenants alike accountable for their behavior. It protects the rights of those propertyowners who deserve to live in peace and quiet, and for those reasons, I am pleased to endorse Senator West's effort.

Cordially:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Marks", written over a horizontal line.

David Marks
Baltimore County Councilman