

February 20, 2020

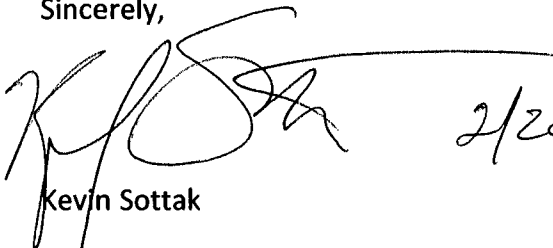
To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Kevin Sottak. I am a resident of Lutherville-Timonium, an employee of the St. Paul's Schools, and a husband father of three adult children. We purchased our house on Broadway Road in the spring of 2003 and have lived there for the past 17 years. Our property lies approximately one mile east of the local farm that grew industrial hemp farm in 2019.

While my family is fortunate that, thus far, we have not experienced the acute health effects that so many of my neighbors have, our quality of life of life has suffered, and I remain concerned about possible long-term health effects. At times last summer, the smell from the farm was sufficiently overpowering that, even a mile away, we kept all windows closed and avoided going outside other than when necessary. Additionally, during the school year we drive past the farm on a daily basis to take our daughter to and from school, increasing our exposure to both the smell and any potentially dangerous substances created by the hemp farm.

I am not against hemp farming, but I do believe that the public needs to be protected from known and unknown health risks of living near hemp fields. I encourage the General Assembly to take action to protect private citizens whose health and quality of life will be directly impaired by the establishment of an industrial hemp farm in our residential neighborhood.

Sincerely,



2/20/2020

Kevin Sottak

1500 Broadway Road, Lutherville, MD 20193