Testimony in SUPPORT of House Joint Resolution 2 Valerie Cox Cascade, MD 21719 February 18, 2021

## Dear Honorable House Rules Committee:

I am writing today to ask you to vote FOR Delegate Cox's House Joint Resolution 2, a resolution to end the state of emergency.

A state of emergency is usually temporary but this one has been constantly renewed for almost a year without any vote or expert witnesses from the legislative body.

If you study data charts between states with strict lockdowns and states that did not impose strict lockdowns, the metrics are almost exactly the same, with some in the non-lockdown states being actually better. I will attach 2 charts showing this.

This perpetual state of emergency must come to an end to protect the livelihoods of so many Marylanders and to protect the mental health of all ages. It is absolutely appalling how this lockdown is affecting our youth.

Please vote to end the state of emergency. Let's keep our checks and balances in good working order.

Thank you for your attention and for hearing our concerns.

Sincerely, Valerie Cox