

This testimony is in reference to HB 1426.

My name is Maria Warburton and my address is 365 Foxfield Dr. Westminster MD 21157 where I have resided for 37 years. My contact information is mariawarburton@comcast.net I am strongly opposed to this bill.

As a resident of Carroll County, I urge this committee to VOTE NO on this proposed legislation which would establish the Carroll County Board of Commissioners as the Carroll County Board of Health.

The Carroll County Health Department is currently a tremendous asset to ALL residents of Carroll County. It is a resource for information and assistance, some of which is not available from other local agencies in the county. Its current directors are medical and public health policy professionals and it is run in a non-partisan manner, which is how it should remain.

Turning control over to an elected local board means turning control over to persons who likely have no medical background and who may have personal or political motivations in making decisions and policies. The health, safety and wellbeing of county residents is too important to take this risk.

Health department policies and actions need to be based on science and research, not the partisan opinions of whomever happens to be on the local board of commissioners at any given time.

Please ensure that the Carroll County Health Department remains a trusted resource for information and assistance for all aspects of county residents' health and is not impacted by the whims of whoever may hold local office. VOTE NO on this legislation.

Sincerely,
Maria Warburton