



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Senator Clarence K. Lam, Senate Delegation Chair
Howard County Delegation
420 Miller Senate Office Building
11 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Delegate Vanessa E. Atterbeary, House Delegation Chair
Howard County Delegation
101 House Office Building
6 Bladen Street, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

Re: TESTIMONY OF SUPPORT: Ho. Co. 21-20 – Howard County Winter Growth Generator

Dear Chair Lam and Chair Atterbeary,

I am proud to express my support for Ho. Co. 21-20, which would create a State Debt to be used by Winter Growth, Inc. to purchase a generator to prevent service disruptions when power outages occur.

Founded in 1979, Winter Growth provides community-based services for senior and disabled adults. Winter Growth manages two assisted living homes in Columbia which houses roughly 31 residents. They also provide adult medical daycare services to 70 residents. State regulations require Winter Growth to maintain its facility temperatures between 70-80 degrees at all times. When facilities suffer power outages, temperatures can and have fallen outside these guidelines. In March of 2018, staff, residents, and daycare users were forced to evacuate the facility due to a power outage which disrupted their care and exposed them to unnecessary elements.

My administration is proud to support efforts that ensure Howard County's vulnerable residents receive the support they need to improve their quality of life. As Howard County continues to meet the needs of the 13% of county residents over age 65 and the more than 42,000 enrolled in Medicare, we must remember that quality of care is just as important as access to care. Providing Winter Growth funding to purchase a generator will ensure residents who utilize their assisted living or adult daycare services that when future outages occur, their care will continue without disruption.

I strongly urge your support for Ho. Co. 21-20.

All the Best,

Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive