DEORGES COUNTY YOUNG

THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

WALA BLEGAY Council Member, District 6

Hon. Marc Korman, Chair

Hon. Regina Boyce, Vice Chair

Environment and Transportation Committee

Maryland General Assembly

Dear Members of the Committee,

We hope this message finds you well. As members of the Prince George's County Council, we are writing to express our opposition to House Bill 1215, which proposes a delivery service fee bill. This proposed legislation is unnecessary and would unfairly burden many of our most vulnerable constituents who rely on these services to provide food, goods, and other necessary household services, with additional financial stress. Apart from negatively affecting the business community in Prince George's County and across the state, we believe this is a regressive tax that would disproportionately impact lower-income families in our county.

Additionally, Prince George's County is home to many seniors who rely on fixed incomes. Many of these seniors use ride-sharing services such as Uber and Lyft to attend their medical appointments, weekly worship activities, and community events. An increased fee for these seniors would further strain their already limited budgets.

Lastly, the proposed price would also disproportionately affect Marylanders living in "food deserts," both in rural and urban areas. Our offices represent many of the citizens in our community who live



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in the "Inner Beltway Communities" of Prince George's County. Making it more expensive for citizens who rely on these services for fresh and healthy food is also regressive. While we understand the need for transportation funding in the state, we do not believe that the burden should be transferred to Maryland's working families. We urge you to consider these dynamics.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

County Council Member Wala Blegay District 6

County Council Member Krystal Oriadha District 7 County Council Member Ed Burroughs III, District 8