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Health and Government Operations
Committee

Subcommittees

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Health Occupations and
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SUPPORT HB769

I ask for your favorable consideration of HB769, entitled Montgomery County - Housing Opportunities Commission - Public Body.

Under HB769, committees of the Montgomery County Housing Opportunities Commission are deemed public bodies under the Open Meetings Act. It codifies a November 2, 2020 Open Meetings Compliance Board opinion.

A subsequent Open Meetings Compliance Board opinion, dated January 27, 2021 provided additional guidance for HOC to come into full compliance with the Open Meetings Act regarding the full board's convening in closed session in 2018. A third opinion is pending concerning HOC's OMA compliance in 2019 and 2020.

Thankfully, HOC has followed the OMCB's guidance and has taken steps to improve their compliance with the Open Meetings Act. HB769 is intended to support and strengthen these efforts, thereby helping HOC to better accomplish its housing mission.

The Montgomery County Delegation voted unanimously in favor and I am asking for your favorable report on HB769.

Thank you