

## PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

September 2, 2020

The Honorable Todd M. Turner Council Chair Prince George's County Council County Administration Building 14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Dear Council Chair Turner:

Enclosed for the County Council's consideration is legislation to amend Division 12—Human Relations Commission (HRC) of the Prince George's County Code. The first proposed amendment is to change the name of the agency from the Human Relations Commission to the Office of Human Rights in order to provide clarity to citizens and other governmental agencies as to its mission and function. The next proposed amendment is to modify language to increase inclusion and diversity, including but not limited to gender-inclusive pronouns. Then, the agency proposes to add gender identity as a protected class of discrimination. The Human Relations Commission also proposes an amendment to clarify the roles and authority of the agency and the appointed Commissioners. The last proposed amendment is to re-establish the Human Relations Commission as an independent agency separate and apart from the Office of Community Relations.

The Council's favorable consideration of this legislation is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact my office or Renée Battle-Brooks, Executive Director, Human Relations Commission, at 301-780-8241.

Sincerely,

Angela D. Alsobrooks County Executive

**Enclosures**