

Board of County Commissioners

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Richard S. Rothschild, *Vice President*
David H. Roush, *Secretary*
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commissioners' Views on Issues Facing the State

Tuesday, January 31, 2012 – During open session today the Commissioners reviewed issues before the State Legislature that should be of concern to all citizens of Maryland.

Commissioner Frazier started the conversation with an explanation of the effect that Senate Bill 241-*Civil Marriage Protection Act* will have on the sanctity of marriage. Currently marriage in Maryland is defined as a union between one man and one woman, but this proposed legislation will allow a union between any two individuals. She pointed to studies that show that children from traditional homes are healthier, safer, more productive and less prone to substance abuse and other emotional and social problems. Commissioner Frazier believes that a "vote for Senate Bill 241 is a vote against children"

Commissioner Rothschild then reviewed the numerous new taxes being proposed including the gas tax hike, the sales tax on gas, yet another increase in state sales tax and the reduction of the mortgage interest deduction. Commissioner Rothschild stated that "over the last 2 years the Governor has increased state spending by \$2 billion. This increase represents \$1,000 per Maryland household yet no additional monies have come to local government. In fact the state's proposed budget actually reduces money coming to Carroll County for education by \$7 million dollars."

Commissioner Howard spoke to the proposed changes in the state legislative districts and pointed out that under the current plan 38,000 Carroll County residents will be represented by non-Carroll County resident delegates. These voters are being disenfranchised. Commissioner Howard stated that "the redistricting proposal is modern-day taxation without representation."

Commissioner Roush summarized the belief of the Board by stating that this is the "conflict between liberty and tyranny and tyranny is getting ahead". And Commissioner Howard suggested that voters become aware and involved because we live in an unsettled time that will have broad implications for the future of our country.

Contact your local representative:

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