

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2021, Legislative Day No. 2

Resolution No. 6-21

Introduced by Mr. Volke

By the County Council, January 19, 2021

1 RESOLUTION urging the Anne Arundel County Executive to increase capacity in
2 Religious Facilities

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4 WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, Maryland Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
5 proclaimed a state of emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the entire
6 State of Maryland pursuant to Title 14 of the Public Safety Article of the State
7 Code, due to the impending threat and continuing impact of the contagious disease
8 known as COVID-19; and

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10 WHEREAS, the Governor's proclamation has subsequently been renewed at
11 regular monthly intervals, and is still in effect; and

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13 WHEREAS, by Executive Order No. 16 dated March 13, 2020, the Anne Arundel
14 County Executive proclaimed a civil emergency in Anne Arundel County, pursuant
15 to Article I, Title 6 of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended); and

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17 WHEREAS, by Bill No. 24-20, the County Council extended the Proclamation of
18 Civil Emergency by the County Executive through April 4, 2020, or to the date the
19 civil emergency proclamation for the State of Maryland is approved to be renewed,
20 extended, or terminated by the Governor of Maryland or the Maryland General
21 Assembly; and

22
23 WHEREAS, by Executive Order No. 20-11-17-01 dated November 17, 2020
24 Governor Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr. proclaimed that Religious Facilities may open to
25 the general public, provided, however, that the total number of persons permitted
26 in a Religious Facility at any one time shall not exceed 50% of that Religious
27 Facility's Maximum Occupancy; and

28
29 WHEREAS, on January 13, 2021, the County Executive issued Executive Order
30 No. 41 that, among other things, directed that the total number of persons permitted
31 in a Religious Facility (as defined in the Governor's Executive Order No. 20-11-
32 17-01) at any one time shall not exceed 33% of that Religious Facility's Maximum
33 Occupancy and that a Religious Facility may hold outdoor services for recognized
34 religious holidays, with a gathering limit of no more than 250 persons, provided the
35 Facility requires strict adherence to the Mandatory Health and Safety Protocols;
36 and be it hereby

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38 *Resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That it urges the*
39 *County Executive to immediately rescind the portion of Executive Order No. 41 that limits*

1 Religious Facilities' capacity limits below those set forth in the Governor's Executive
2 Order No. 20-11-17-01, and allow Religious Facilities to operate with the capacity limits
3 set forth in the Governor's Executive Order No. 20-11-17-01; and be it further

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5 *Resolved*, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to County Executive Steuart Pittman.