

My name is Steve Melkisetian. I'm an East Bethesda homeowner and a Kensington small business owner. Even in the best of times, working class residential renters are challenged to find housing that might check some of the boxes of affordability, size, closeness to work, school, shopping and childcare in one of the most expensive rental markets in the country. Many of our neighbors who rent are the heroes who are still going out to work every day at grave risk, driving the buses and delivery trucks, staffing the hospitals and elder care facilities, stocking the shelves with food and medicine, keeping our infrastructure functioning, moving the mail and performing the other essential labor that sustains our lives. Please support Bill 18-20E to stabilize residential rents during the Covid 19 crisis. We owe our neighbors at least this much relief and, really, a whole lot more. Thank you for hearing me out.