

My name is Jay Johnston. I am the President of the Virginia Run Board of Trustees and a member of the Sully District Council. I am presenting this position today as a concerned and dually elected member of our homeowner's association and as a private citizen.

As a Board, we urge that the Board of Supervisors adopt the Planning Commission's recommendations to retain the Special Permit requirements for Home Based Businesses and the Accessory Living Units, but we reiterate our major concerns about both, as I expressed in my testimony to the 28 January 2021 Supervisor's meeting. As a member of the Sully District Council, the Virginia Run Board unanimously supported the Council's December 2020 resolution to the Board of Supervisors in opposition to the most recently adopted zMOD provisions.

Additionally, we believe, as many of my fellow members of the Homeowner Associations, Civic Associations, and those not represented by either, that its critically important that all zMOD actions cease until we can resume direct and free dialogue in an open forum with residents to better understand the potential impacts to these groups. We believe it is important that these zoning amendments not destabilize the needs of these all-important county and district

representative organizations. I implore you to not undermine the roles and responsibilities of the lifeblood of Fairfax County.

The most important issue for these representative organizations is to preserve the right to speak regarding Board of Supervisors amendments, planning commission decisions, and zoning issues. For example, abolishing the public hearings for legislative matters prevents the citizenry the opportunity to comment on potential detrimental impacts to their quality of life. That basic right to receive notice and to be given an opportunity to be heard ought not be taken away by you or any legislative action. The freedom of speech is one of this country's basic rights and must not be infringed. The matter is simple, a basic right we have now, is in serious jeopardy, due to anti-citizen Gartner streamlining and trendy California social engineering. You cannot just legislate away these representative organization's roles and responsibilities to their members.

The Virginia Run Community Association is an important voting body that represents 1405 homes and well over 2800 potential voting participants in the western portion of Sully Magisterial District. It is one of the largest single homeowner's association in Fairfax County's residential conservation zoning district. I will remind the Board of Supervisors also, that the homeowner associations, citizens associations, and those not represented by an association are the life

blood of this county and are a significant percentage of the voting block for county elected representatives. We are the fundamental legislators for managing a safe and healthy environment for our resident owners.

Most of the criticism is that zMOD allows too many “trendy” changes that will cause overcrowding in the neighborhoods. Fairfax County is known for its excellent school system, high standards for housing, sustainable infrastructure, and rules and regulations that are enforceable through the zoning ordinance processes. Some of the “unintended consequences” of zMOD will cause overcrowding in our schools, overburden our infrastructure, increase the density in neighborhoods already challenged with parking, traffic, signage, and unwanted non-resident infiltration. The lack of county monitoring will pit neighbor against neighbor because the county is unprepared and ill equipped to monitor and check on the ordinances they are attempting to incorporate.

We are Fairfax County. We can do better than this. We are the best county in Virginia and one of the best counties in the country. I am proud to be a resident but recognize there is plenty of room for improvement, especially where the environment is concerned, availability of public forums, and consideration for all the county’s resident’s “safety, health, and general welfare” – sound familiar – it is in the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan. Please be respectful of our

rural lifestyle and the investment we have made in our homes and neighborhoods. We have spent 40 years building strong, resilient, and financially sound communities. Let us not destroy that with the stroke of a pen tonight.