

**MARYLAND JUDICIAL CONFERENCE**  
**GOVERNMENT RELATIONS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

Hon. Matthew J. Fader  
Chief Justice

187 Harry S. Truman Parkway  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Housing and Human Welfare Committee  
Annapolis City Council

**FROM:** Legislative Committee  
Suzanne D. Pelz, Esq.  
410-260-1523

**RE:** Ordinance O-21-23  
Landlord-Tenant Relations – Relocation Expenses

**DATE:** June 20, 2023

**POSITION:** Oppose

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The Maryland Judiciary opposes Ordinance O-21-23. This ordinance provides that a landlord shall pay relocation expenses to a tenant(s) who is permanently or temporarily displaced by city condemnation in the City of Annapolis.

The District Court of Maryland is a statewide court system designed to provide the uniform application of law to all who come before it. This bill would cause the landlord tenant law to apply differently in one jurisdiction and infringe on the current uniform rent escrow code resulting in an inequitable application of the law across the state and even more specifically in Anne Arundel County. There should be statewide consistency and equity in how landlord/tenant cases are processed across Maryland. In addition, the time frames outlined in the bill are not realistic.

cc. Hon. Dajuan Gay  
Judicial Council  
Legislative Committee  
Kelley O'Connor