



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Michael Pompeo
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2210 C Street NW
Washington D.C. 20520

January 8, 2020

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

As Howard County Executive, I am writing to affirm that Howard County will accept the resettling of refugees in our county under Executive Order 13888. Howard County is dedicated to our principles of diversity and inclusion and committed to welcoming refugees and asylum seekers with open arms as they settle into new communities.

This country has long been welcoming to “your tired, your poor, your huddled masses,” and should not exclude individuals who are fleeing war, persecution, and humanitarian crises. Those who seek refuge are an integral and engaged part of our country and our community. They contribute to our community by supporting our economy and are valued residents of their new neighborhoods.

Our vibrant culture and economy are a result of the many immigrants and refugees who have made Howard County their home. With more than 64,000 foreign-born residents, Howard County is dedicated to creating the best quality of life for all our residents, and we will continue to include refugees among them. Refugees are a vital part of our past, present, and future.

Sincerely,

Calvin Ball
Howard County Executive

cc: Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Carol T. O’Connell
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration, U.S. Department of State, Maryland
Congressional Delegation