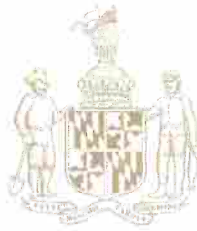


ULYSSES CURRIE
Legislative District 25
Prince George's County

Budget and Taxation Committee



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THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

November 4, 2016

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
Office of the President
100 State Circle
H-107
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear President Miller:

After much reflection and contemplation, it is with great sadness that after 30 years of service to the people of District 25 and the State of Maryland that I submit my resignation from the Maryland Senate as of December 1, 2016. I cannot express to you what a privilege and an honor it has been to serve my constituents of Prince George's County and the great state of Maryland with integrity for so many years. It is my deep love for my constituents and the Maryland Senate, combined with the recognition that I can no longer serve with the strength and energy you all deserve, that I have decided the time has come to turn the mantle over to a successor who, prayerfully, will carry the torch and provide exemplary service to the Free State.

As the son of a sharecropper in North Carolina, never in a million years could I have imagined that I would have the opportunity to enjoy so many tremendous experiences to serve in such an important position that has impacted the lives of so many. I came to Maryland and to the General Assembly from a time it is hard for many to remember. A time of segregation and hate and discrimination, and from a place where I lived through that every day. I did not let the hate create lasting anger and instead found solace and a future for myself in obtaining what I continue to believe is the "great equalizer", a good education.

As a former teacher and principal, I cannot say strongly enough to my colleagues in the Maryland General Assembly how critical access to a great education is to the future of our children and our State. We should all be proud that our State Constitution clearly guarantees all children be provided a public education that is equal in quality regardless of which county a student lives. I am proud that in each of my 30 years as a legislator, I have tirelessly fought to ensure that our State Constitutional education promise is not an empty one. Even in the worst of economic times in recent memory, we took the tough action needed to keep our education promises. As a member and Chairman of the Budget and Taxation Committee, I consider these kept promises to public education to be my greatest achievement.

I additionally believe that I have been able to be an effective representative and leader in the General Assembly because I was raised as a gentleman to treat people with kindness and respect, and that respect and kindness has always been returned. It is my great hope that the Senate of Maryland continue in this spirit of collegiality, kindness and civility.

Mr. President, I also want to take this opportunity to express my profound appreciation to you for your enduring support and leadership over the course of this journey that I have been privileged to undertake. You have been an integral part of the successes I have enjoyed, people I have had an opportunity to meet, and places around the world that I have traveled. I cannot thank you enough for your support, friendship, leadership, advice and generosity over the years.

Though my memories may fade, please know that my heart will always be filled with the love I have for the many dear and good friends that have touched my life throughout the years, and you are certainly at the top of my list. I hope to continue to stay connected to you all and to be able to offer my strong support to the work of my successor. I pray God's continued blessings for you, your family, the Senate, and the people of Maryland.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ulysses Currie". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "U" and a long, sweeping tail.

Ulysses Currie, Senator
25th Legislative District