

I OPPOSE the diversion of \$15.2 million from the Community Investment Act as proposed in HB 6825, the Governor's Deficiency Bill. Open space is so critical to wildlife and humans. Blood pressure decreases and other indicators of stress are reduced by open space. Furthermore, the ecological impact of open space, eg, watersheds and trees with their multitude of benefits to life, are not quantifiable but invaluable to all living things.

Sincerely, Shirley McCarthy, MD, PhD

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