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Press Release

"People for Change Coalition calls on County Executive to take a Proactive Approach to Increase Voter Turnout in Primary Elections"

Prince George's County, MARYLAND Tuesday, April 22, 2014: In a letter dated April 7, 2014 to County Executive Rushern Baker, the People for Change Coalition (PFC Coalition) called on the County Executive to better engage the citizens of Prince George's County and increase turnout at the polls.

Starting with the June 2014 Primary, the PFC Coalition says it's time to hold the County Executive and the Board of Elections accountable. We need the government to work on behalf of the people.

According to the response from the County Executive, the Prince George's County Board of Elections only allocates \$100,000 of its \$3.3 million dollar budget for outreach during each election cycle. We feel more needs to be done.

We owe it to the citizens of Prince George's County to bring more awareness and education around the importance of voting. With a major change in the Gubernatorial primary to June when people are used to September, will surely catch people off

guard. We can also learn from the recent April primary in DC that voters are just not that enthusiastic and engaged.

In Prince George's County where the elections are determined in the Primary, the county government should make it a priority to increase turnout. With 900,000 residents and close to 600,000 registered voters, why are we content with a low turnout? For example in the 2010 Gubernatorial primary there was a 21.31% turnout of registered voters. This is unacceptable.

We can not hope that people will come out to vote in June 2014. We must take a proactive approach!

That means, educating people now thru the Primary via Prince George's County Public Access TV, posting signage and putting out flyers all over the county, including Maryland National Park and Planning facilities and county buildings, hosting town halls, running radio and newspaper ads, and placing robo calls to homes.

The [PFC Coalition](#) is one of the largest and fastest growing nonprofit membership organizations in Prince George's County with over 300 members. Formed in 2011, our mission is to develop the capacity of nonprofit and minority businesses by providing assessment, support and expansion services. We also serve as a collective voice for this sector.

Our vision is to improve the quality of life in our communities thru our nonprofits and minority businesses.

For more information, visit our website www.pfccoalition.org.