



MARYLAND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES COUNCIL

AFT, AFL-CIO Local 6197

A union of professionals
in service to the people
of Maryland

August 23, 2019

Mr. Greg Todd
Deputy Secretary of Operations
Maryland Dept. of Health
201 W. Preston St.
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Dear Mr. Todd,

Due to the ongoing issue of bed bugs in the 201 building which has proven to be unstable we are seeking accommodations for employees such as relocation, teleworking, or administrative leave as described in the Maintaining A Pest-Free Workplace Policy, Article A. Section 6.

MPEC officials and staff have operated in good faith, allowing DGS officials an adequate amount of time to resolve this matter in attempts to exterminate since July 1, and trust of reports given by DGS officials of safe occupancy. Unfortunately, due to continued sightings of bed bugs on different levels of the building, it is unreasonable to further allow employees to risk contact with bed bugs which convey from one location to another.

The harmful mental and physical effects of bed bugs are not in the best interest of employees nor work product. Employees should not be required to work in the 201 building until it is confirmed the building is in safe and healthy condition. With mutual concern for employees and collaboration in promoting safe and healthy workplaces, your cooperation is anticipated.

Respectfully,

Jerry Smith, President

cc: Cynthia Kollner, Executive Director, OSPB

