

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 10/17/2000

Reference No.: CB-78-2000

Proposer: Estep

Draft No.: 2

Sponsors: Estep

Item Title: An Act prohibiting the introduction and presence of certain animals in public buildings under certain circumstances

Drafter: Ralph E. Grutzmacher
Legislative Officer

Resource John Timms
Personnel: Legislative Aide

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: 9/6/2000 **Executive Action:** 11/6/2000 S

Committee Referral: 9/6/2000 HEHS **Effective Date:** 12/22/2000

Committee Action: 9/21/00 FAV(A)

Date Introduced: 9/26/2000

Public Hearing: 10/17/2000 1:30 P.M.

Council Action: 10/17/2000 ENACTED

Council Votes: DB:A, JE:A, IG:A, TH:A, WM:A, RVR:A, AS:A, PS:A, MW:-

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE DATE: 9/21/00

Committee Vote: Favorable, with amendments, 4-0 (In favor: Council Members Scott, Bailey, Russell and Hendershot).

Staff summarized the purpose of the legislation explaining that it prohibits unrestrained animals in public buildings and grounds, while allowing for animals that are securely contained within an enclosure designed for the transportation of such animals. This does not apply to animals trained to assist persons with disabilities when in the company of such persons.

The County Executive supports the legislation with two amendments. The Office of Law presented the amendments at Committee. The first amendment excluded animals trained to perform public safety and/or emergency rescue operations. The second amendment excluded public housing sites. Federal regulation provides that no owner/manager may prevent or prohibit

a tenant from owning or having a common household pet.

The Office of Audits & Investigations determined that there may be some positive fiscal impact on the County as a result of enacting CB-78-2000, related to any fines imposed.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

The proposed legislation would prohibit unrestrained animals in public buildings and grounds. Animals that assist persons with disabilities would continue to be allowed.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: