

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

**Meeting Date:** 3/4/97

**Reference No.:** CB-12-1997

**Proposer:** Maloney

**Draft No.:** 2

**Sponsors:** Maloney

**Item Title:** A bill to provide procedures for conducting a special election to fill a vacancy on the County Council

**Drafter:** Ralph E. Grutzmacher  
Legislative Officer

**Resource Personnel:**

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

**Date Presented:** 2/11/97

**Executive Action:** 4/8/97 S

**Committee Referral:**(1) 2/11/97 C.O.W.

**Effective Date:** 5/27/97

**Committee Action:**(1) 2/18/97 FAV (A)

**Date Introduced:** 3/4/97

**Pub. Hearing Date:** (1) 3/25/97 2:00 PM

**Council Action:** (1) 3/25/97 ENACTED

**Council Votes:** DB:A, SD:A, JE:A, IG:A, AMc:A, WM:A, RVR:A, AS:A, MW:A

**Pass/Fail:** P

**Remarks:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:**

DATE: 2/18/97

Committee Vote: favorable with technical amendments; motion made by Council Member Maloney; seconded by Council Member MacKinnon. (Vote: 8-0); (Absent: Council Member Del Giudice)

The Council met as a Committee of the Whole on February 18, 1997. Written comments from Erik H. Nyce, attorney to the Board of Supervisors of Elections, were reviewed. The Office of Law identified proposed technical amendments.

The Board of Elections pointed out that nominations by petition was inappropriate in a partisan election and recommended that both a special primary and special general election be held. With

respect to the number of petitions required, the Board observed that the 200 signature requirement would likely increase the number of candidates. The Board also objected to the requirement to disseminate the candidate background statement provided in proposed Section 2-104 (j).

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT**

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

The voters approved an amendment to the County Charter to provide for the filling of vacancies on the County Council by special election under certain circumstances. The proposed legislation provides for the conduct of such special elections by providing a nomination and election process in accordance with the new Charter provisions and the State Election Code.

**CODE INDEX TOPICS:**