

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2017 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-6-2017
Draft No.: 2
Committee: PUBLIC SAFETY AND FISCAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
03/9/2017
Action: FAV (A)

REPORT: Favorable as Amended, 5-0 (In Favor: Council Members Glaros, Taveras, Harrison, Lehman, and Turner)

CB-6-2017 seeks to improve access to public information by requiring electronic public notice of meetings on a central website thereby increasing the transparency of public bodies authorized under the Prince George's County Charter. This Bill would include all Boards and Commissions.

The proposed legislation requires the Director of Information Technology to designate the central website, and the format and manner of reported information, in consistency with the proposed legislation.

During the Committee meeting the sponsor of the Bill, Council Member Mel Franklin, stressed the need for the Bill and how it would be of great benefit to the citizens of the County. The sponsor also presented a proposed Draft 2. On page 2, line 3 he deleted the language "or such notice shall be deemed to not have been provided to the public". He also added the Clerk of the Council to the Bill and changed the effective date to October 1, 2017.

Spencer Thomas, Acting Director of Information Technology, also expressed support for the Bill and stated that his Office would coordinate the public notice.

The County Executive's Office expressed support for the Bill.

The Office of Law finds the bill to be in proper legal form with no legal impediments to its enactment.

The Office of Audits and Investigations finds that the enactment of CB-006-2017 should not have an adverse impact on the County.

After deliberation, the Public Safety and Fiscal Management Committee reported CB-6-2017 out favorably as amended 5-0.