

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2017 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-91-2017

Draft No.: 2

Committee: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Date: October 17, 2017

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT: October 17, 2017

Committee Vote: Favorable with Amendments, 4-1 (In favor: Council Members Turner, Lehman, Franklin and Taveras. In opposition: Council Member Patterson)

CB-91-2017 (DR-2) imposes civil fines and penalties for the violation of the Housing Code for one-family and two-family dwellings and multifamily rental facilities.

Nathaniel Tutt, Council Liaison, spoke in support of the bill. Gary Cunningham, Deputy Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement also spoke in support of the bill.

Julio D. Murillo-Khadjibaeva, Policy Analyst, of CASA provided that CB-91-2017 will help tenants increase the quality of their homes because property managers will face a civil monetary fine for housing code violations.

Ron Wineholt of AOBA spoke in opposition to the bill. He indicated that the bill is unnecessary because (1) current County law at Section 13-189 already provides a penalty of \$1,000 per month for failure to obtain a rental license; (2) enforcement of Division 4 of Subtitle 13 is weaker than the penalties in current law; and (3) if it is to be amended to enforce housing code violations in general, it is redundant with the Administration's Administrative Hearings Bill, CB-64-2017.

