

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2001 Legislative Session

REORGANIZATIONAL PROPOSAL

Executive Order No. 30-2001

Date Received September 19, 2001

Bill No. CB-70-2001

Chapter No. 62

Action by Council Approved

Date of Council Action November 19, 2001

EXECUTIVE ORDER

No. 30-2001

WHEREAS, the current name used to refer to the Prince George's County agency established to coordinate local activity in response to emergency situations is the Office of Civil Defense, also known as the Office of Emergency Preparedness.

WHEREAS, Section 16A of the Annotated Code of Maryland refers to the organizations established in the political subdivisions as local organization for "emergency management";

WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure that the local agency is readily identifiable to funding sources, members of the statewide emergency management system and members of the general community;

WHEREAS, Section 503 of the Prince George's County Charter provides that the County Executive may propose changes to the organization for the Executive branch, including the establishment or abolition of agencies, and the assignment of functions, powers and duties among agencies, which proposals shall be set forth in Executive Orders in statutory form and be submitted to the County Council; and

WHEREAS, there is hereby proposed a change to the name of the Office of Civil Defense, also known as the Office of Emergency Preparedness to be consistent with language used in State law;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that:

SECTION 1. The Schedule of Legislation of the Charter for Prince George's County, Maryland, be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

SCHEDULE OF LEGISLATION

* * * * *

Section 13. Fire/Emergency Medical Services Department.

There shall be a Fire/Emergency Medical Services ("EMS") Department headed by a Fire Chief. The Fire Chief shall be responsible for fire prevention, fire suppression, emergency medical services, fire and rescue communications, research and training activities, coordination of the volunteer fire companies, and emergency management. The Fire Chief shall have had at least five years administrative experience in the field of fire prevention, fire training, or fire suppression. There shall be a Fire Commission composed of nine members elected by the volunteer fire companies of Prince George's County. Each company shall be entitled to cast one vote for each member of the Commission. The first election shall take place in the month of December, 1970, and an election shall take place annually thereafter during the month of July.

The Fire Commission shall review the financial needs and requests for public funds of each volunteer fire company. It shall formulate annually one capital budget, one capital improvement program, and one current expense budget for all volunteer fire companies with respect to the expenditure of public funds, and shall submit said budgets and program, together with appropriate justification, to the County Executive in accordance with the provisions of this Charter. Within the Fire/Emergency Medical Services Department, there shall be an Office of Emergency [Preparedness] Management, headed by a Director of Emergency [Preparedness] Management. The Director shall be appointed by the Governor pursuant to the provisions of Article 16A, Section 7, of the Annotated Code of Maryland, upon the recommendation of the County Executive. Prior to submission to the Governor, the County Executive shall secure concurrence of the County Council with his recommendation in the manner set forth in Section 322 of the Charter. The Director of Emergency [Preparedness] Management shall have the duties and responsibilities as set forth in Article 16A, Section 7, of the Annotated Code of Maryland and shall be responsible for the preparation and coordination of emergency actions of the County government.

SECTION 2. This Order shall be submitted to the County Council pursuant to Section 503 of the Prince George's County Charter and, thereafter, shall become effective sixty (60) calendar days after such submission unless disapproved by a majority vote of the full Council.

Wayne K. Curry
County Executive