

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

Meeting Date:	11/18/2003	Reference No.:	CB-89-2003
Proposer:	County Executive	Draft No.:	1
Sponsors:	Shapiro, Dean, Dernoga, Peters		
Item Title:	An Act increasing the civil fine amounts for violations of the County prohibition against illegal signs		

Drafter:	Karen T. Zavakos Office of Law	Resource Personnel:	Betty Hager Francis DPW&T
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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented:	10/7/2003	Executive Action:	12/3/2003	S
Committee Referral:	10/7/2003	THE	Effective Date:	1/20/2004
Committee Action:	10/16/2003	FAV		
Date Introduced:	10/21/2003			
Public Hearing:	11/18/2003	10:00 A.M.		
Council Action:	11/18/2003	ENACTED		
Council Votes:	PS:A, MB:A, SHD:A, TD:A, CE:A, DCH:A, TH:A, TK:A, DP:A			
Pass/Fail:	P			

Remarks: _____

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE DATE: 10/16/03

Committee Vote: Favorable, 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Dean, Dernoga and Peters)

Staff provided a summary of the bill and referral comments that were received. CB-89-2003 would increase the civil monetary fines for successive violations of the County's prohibition against illegal signs. The increases in the fines will defray the County's cost for the removal and disposal of illegal signs, as well as costs related to processing violations.

The revised fee chart is found on page 2 of the resolution. The Office of Law representative discussed the previous amounts of the fines as they relate to the new amounts.

A question was raised regarding the proliferation of campaign signs and would this bill address it. The Legislative Officer indicated that campaign signs in the public rights-of-way would be subject to the new fines.

The Office of Audits and Investigations has determined that there may be a positive fiscal impact to the County as a result of enacting CB-89-2003. There may be additional revenues generated from the civil fine increase, but the amount cannot be quantified at this time.

The Office of Law finds it to be in proper legislative form.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

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

This bill increases the civil fines for violations of the County ordinance prohibiting illegal signs.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: