

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-018-2024

Draft No.: 2

Committee: GOFP

Date: June 13, 2024

Action: FAV (A)

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable with amendments 5-0 (Council Members Watson, Harrison, Dernoga, Franklin, Oriadha)

The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee convened on June 13, 2024, to consider CB-018-2024, proposed draft 2, an act concerning fiscal responsibility and good government to require the Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to submit a statement to the Council describing the fiscal impact of each bill before Council action; specifying the contents of the fiscal impact statement, and generally amending the law governing the consideration of bills by the County Council.

Council staff provided an overview and noted that CB-018-2024 would improve Council Rule 11.4. which states that “If a bill or resolution on enactment or adoption would result in an increase or decrease in County revenues, appropriations, or fiscal liability, the committee which considered the bill or resolution shall, in its report, as provided by the County Auditor, explain these fiscal effects to the Council. When requested, the Office of Finance and/or the Office of Management and Budget shall assist in the preparation of information required by the committee.) Proposed legislation submitted by the County Executive shall be accompanied by a statement of its fiscal effect.”

The proposed bill sets the timing for submitting each fiscal impact statement for legislation that the Council considers.

The enactment of CB-018-2024 may have an adverse direct fiscal impact on the County should it require additional personnel in the Office of Management and Budget. The Administration has indicated that the existing staff complement cannot absorb the additional administrative demands of the Bill. The enactment of CB-018-2024 is likely to have a favorable indirect fiscal impact to the extent that the decision-makers in both branches enact and implement legislation for which the full likely fiscal impact has been considered.

Sakinda Skinner, representing the Office of the County Executive CE, stated that the Administration supports the legislation and thanked those who worked on preparing it.

Bill sponsor council member Harrison noted that we have an obligation to understand the real fiscal impact, whether positive or negative. We need to understand this as we realign priorities.

Council member Oriadha thanked the sponsor for additional accountability methods and inquired about the process.

Council Member Franklin thanked Council Member Harrison for his work to ensure the County Government stays within the budget.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council's Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee reported CB-18-2024 out of committee favorably, 4-0-1 as amended.