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**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**

**SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Legislative Session

1992

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Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_ CB-23-

1992

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Chapter No.

5

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Proposed and Presented by \_\_\_\_\_ Council Member

Casula

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Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_ Council Members Casula,

MacKinnon

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\_\_\_\_\_ and Del

Giudice

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Co-Sponsors

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Date of Introduction \_\_\_\_\_ March 17,

1992

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**ZONING BILL**

AN ORDINANCE concerning

Signs

FOR the purpose of clarifying the definition of outdoor advertising signs (billboards) to include both commercial and non-commercial copy; and providing and clarifying that non-

commercial copy may be placed on any authorized sign.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

Sections 27-107.1(a) (213),  
27-590, and  
27-602,

The Zoning Ordinance of Prince George's County, Maryland,  
being also

SUBTITLE 27. ZONING.

The Prince George's County Code  
(1991 Edition).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, sitting as the District Council for that part of the Maryland-Washington Regional District in Prince George's County, Maryland, that Sections 27-107.1(a) (213), 27-590, and 27-602 of the Zoning Ordinance of Prince George's County, Maryland, being also Subtitle 27 of the Prince George's County Code, be and the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

**SUBTITLE 27. ZONING.**

**PART 2. GENERAL.**

**DIVISION 1. DEFINITIONS.**

**Sec. 27-107.1. Definitions.**

(a) Terms in the Zoning Ordinance are defined as follows:

(213) **Sign, Outdoor Advertising (Billboard):** A "Sign"

(including **"Painted Bulletin"** and **"Poster Panel"**) which directs attention to a business, commodity, service, entertainment, campaign, drive, promotion, event, or other activity conducted, sold, or offered elsewhere than upon the property on which the "Sign" is located, whether containing commercial or non-commercial copy. The term also means a permanent "Sign" advertising the sale, lease, rental, or designation of real estate located elsewhere than on the property upon which the "Sign" is located. A "Painted Bulletin" is an "Outdoor Advertising Sign" having an area greater than three hundred (300) square feet. A "Poster Panel" is an "Outdoor Advertising Sign" which generally has panels of poster paper attached to it, and an area not greater than three hundred (300) square feet. (See **Figure 25**)

**PART 12. SIGNS.**

**DIVISION 1. GENERAL.**

**Sec. 27-590. Applicability.**

(a) This Part shall govern all signs in all zones, unless otherwise specifically provided elsewhere in this Subtitle.

(b) The provisions of the Building Code which address signs shall apply, except where in direct conflict with any of the provisions of this Part.

(c) [This Part does not apply to the flag, emblem, insignia, poster, or other display of a nation, state, or other political subdivision; or to an educational, charitable, religious, or similar group's campaign, drive, or event.] Any

sign authorized in this Part may contain non-commercial copy,  
in lieu of other commercial or non-commercial copy  
notwithstanding any other provision of this Part. The  
placement of noncommercial copy on any authorized sign does not  
make such sign an outdoor advertising sign.

**DIVISION 2. ADMINISTRATION.**

**Subdivision 1. Permits.**

**Sec. 27-602. Signs exempt from sign permit.**

(a) Types of signs exempt from sign permit, when all applicable Design Standards of Division 3, Subdivision 4, of this Part are met:

\* \* \* \* \*

(15) **Public:** Signs of a noncommercial nature which are erected by, or ordered to be erected by, a public official in the performance of official duty, or by a governmental agency, such as: safety signs; traffic control signs; signs of historical interest; murals, paintings, or other artistic displays; and names or locations of cities, towns, and villages. This Section also includes any flag, emblem, insignia, poster, or other display of a nation, state or other political subdivision.

(16) **Public interest events:** Temporary signs indicating events of widespread public interest, such as the opening of a shopping center or a political campaign; or temporary signs relating to an educational, charitable,

religious, or similar group's campaign, drive, promotion, or event.

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SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Ordinance shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Adopted this 7th day of April, 1992.

OF COUNTY, COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND, SITTING AS THE DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR THAT PART OF THE MARYLAND-WASHINGTON REGIONAL DISTRICT IN PRINCE GEORGE'S MARYLAND

BY:

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Richard J. Castaldi  
Chairman

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joyce T. Sweeney  
Acting Clerk of the Council

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.  
Asterisks \*\*\* indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.