

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2025 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-084-2025

Draft No.: 2

Committee: Health, Human Services, and Public Safety

Date: October 16, 2025

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 5-0 (In favor Council Members Blegay, Fisher, Olson, Oriadha, and Watson)

The Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee met on October 16, 2025, to consider CB-084-2025.

Staff provided an overview of CB-084-2025, stating that it strengthens protections for door-to-door sales for seniors. It requires solicitors to provide clear information, carry ID, and give written contracts while allowing a “cooling-off period for cancellations.” Draft 2 has been provided for the committee’s consideration.

Council Vice Chair Oriadha, the bill sponsor, highlighted that the bill protects seniors from door-to-door solicitation scams, holds companies accountable for their solicitors, and requires them to help educate seniors about their rights. She emphasized that this shared responsibility helps prevent fraud and ensures seniors are treated fairly and respectfully.

Isaiah Joseph, Legislative Budget & Policy Analyst, provided an overview of the Policy, Analysis, and Impact Statement for CB-084-2025, stating that if enacted, the bill could require additional county spending for staffing, training, and technology, including upgrades to the licensing system and hiring at least five investigators, which is considered an unfunded mandate. It may help reduce fraud against seniors and ease social services pressures, though some high-risk industries could face added compliance costs.

Ramon Gonzalez, Legislative Attorney, provided an overview of changes in the proposed draft. The proposed amendments include clarifying definitions and name usage, removing certain penalties, and reassigning responsibilities among agencies. High-risk industry applicants will now undergo a criminal background check and fingerprinting, with the cost covered by the applicant. Several references to divisions and QR codes were removed for clarity, and the

Department of Family Services was added in place of previous references. Lastly, provisions regarding the no-solicitation registry and associated penalties were removed.

The bill sponsor, Council Vice Chair Oriadha, added additional amendments emphasizing that the three-day response requirement on page 9 (Section Solicitation Protection Rapid Response Force) will be removed, the Department of Family Services will handle the Rapid Response Force to investigate potential violations, the on-site inspection requirement will be removed, and any reference to “Division” on lines 17 and 18 will be changed to Family Services. She noted that these changes complete all of the amendments for Draft 2 of CB-084-2025.

Elana Belon-Butler, Director of the Department of Family Services, spoke in support of CB-084-2025. She shared that Family Services is not an enforcement or regulatory agency; they cannot enforce rules or protections. She clarified that they could educate, train, and reach out to residents. The Department of Family Services sees an opportunity to partner with the Office of Senior Services for these efforts and has already begun internal discussions.

Sonia Owens, Council Liaison, Office of the County Executive, did not have a position because the Administration wanted more discussions.

Council Vice Chair Oriadha made a motion to move favorably on Draft 2 as amended, seconded by Chair Blegay.

The Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee voted 5-0 in favor of CB-084-2025 Draft 2 as amended.