



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT


Office of Audits and Investigations


June 2, 2021

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: Robert J. Williams, Jr.
Council Administrator

William M. Hunt
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Josh Hamlin 
Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

FROM: Cassandra Fields 
Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement
CB-029-2021, Mobile Units and Food Safety

CB-029-2021 (*Sponsored by:* Councilmember Glaros)

Presented and referred to the Committee of the Whole (COW) on April 6, 2021.

AN ACT concerning Mobile Units and Food Safety for the purpose of amending the definition of depots to include registration, annual inspections and annual reporting and the vehicle identification requirements.

Fiscal Summary

Direct Impact:

Expenditures: None likely. Any additional administrative costs associated with implementation should be absorbed by the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) and/or Health Department, as applicable.

Revenues: None likely.

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Indirect Impact:

None likely.

Legislative Summary:

CB-029-2021, sponsored by Councilmember Glaros was presented to the County Council on April 6, 2021 and referred to the Committee of the Whole (COW). CB-029-2021 would amend the definition of *Depot* under Section 12-104 of the Code¹ to include the provisions that: (1) they will be inspected annually by the appropriate agency; (2) only licensed vendors will be allowed to operate at a *Depot*; and (3) the food service facility is required to provide an annual report of all mobile vendors utilizing its *Depot*. In addition, CB-029-2021 seeks to insert the requirement that a food service facility be *registered* in addition to being permitted through the applicable regulatory authority.

As proposed, CB-029-2021 would amend Section 12-115, under Subdivision 3. Permits and Inspections, to require the affixation of specified vehicle identification *adjacent to the customer opening on the passenger side* of the mobile unit.

Current Law/Background:

Subtitle 12. Health. Division 2. Food Services Facilities. Subdivision 2 and 3, Sections 12-104 and 12-115 of the County Code sets forth the definition for *Depot* and the Permitting and Inspections requirements for Special Food Service Facilities-Mobile Units. As it stands currently, the *Depot* is defined as a food service facility that is permitted through a sanctioned approving authority. The *Depot* provides services to mobile special food service facilities on a routine basis, such as “food, food preparation or storage, utensil wash facilities, potable water, or waste disposal facilities”. The proposed bill would expand the specifications and requirements of the Depot and Special Food Service Facilities, Mobile Units in the manner outlined in the summary.

Discussion/Policy Analysis:

CB-029-2021 would amend the existing Code to include additional language specifying that a *Depot* will be inspected annually; only allow licensed mobile vendors to operate therein; and provide an annual listing of all vendors operating under the *Depot*. Additionally, it would expand upon the existing requirement for vehicle identification to specifically be affixed to the exterior body, *adjacent to the customer opening on the passenger side*. This could allow inspections to be more effective and efficient, if all the placards were in the same location on all licensed and permitted mobile vendors. It would also indicate to the customer that it had adhered to all necessary health inspection requirements.

¹ This section is within Subtitle 12 Health. Division 2. Food Service Facilities. Subdivision 2. ‘County Additions, Insertions, and Changes to the State Regulations.’

Fiscal Impact:

Direct Impact

Enactment of CB-029-2021 should not have a direct fiscal impact on the County relating to inspection and enforcement. Any additional administrative costs associated with implementation should be absorbed by the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) and/or Health Department as applicable.

Indirect Impact

None likely.

Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget

No.

Effective Date of Proposed Legislation:

This Act shall be effective forty-five days (45) after it becomes law.

If you require additional information, or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please call me.