

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE REPORT

2019 Legislative Session

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**Reference No.:** CB-021-2019

**Draft No.:** 2

**Committee:** HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES & PUBLIC SAFETY

**Date:** 6/19/2019

**Action:** FAV(A)

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### REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 3-0 with amendments, (In favor, Council Members Hawkins, Ivey, and Taveras)

CB-21-2019 amends Section 12-114.01 of the Prince George's County Code; authorizing the issuance of a food service manager certification to individuals for a 5-year period, after completion of the certification training or passage of the examination. The current food service manager certification issued by the Health Department is good for three (3) years.

The sponsor of the legislation provided background information on the need for the legislation, citing the cost for the Food Service Manager Certification and County fees. The sponsor further indicated that National certifications currently certify individuals for five (5) years and this legislation will reduce confusion as the certificate indicates it is valid for five (5) years.

The Health Department provided written comments explaining their current reciprocal agreement with Montgomery, Howard, Baltimore and Baltimore City to issue a card from those counties based on a Prince George's card. The Health Department had no objections; however, operators will no longer have reciprocity with the 5-year card.

The Office of Law finds it to be in proper legislative form. However, it was noted that on page 1, line 15, the following language should be added to the Title: "Food Service Manager Certification." This is a technical amendment.

The Office of Audits & Investigations determined that enactment of CB-21-2019 may have a negative fiscal impact of approximately \$60,000 over each five-year certification period. CB-21-2019 may have an indirect fiscal impact on the County by encouraging increased economic development in the food service industry, however a reasonable estimate of the impact is unable to be determined at this time.

The Restaurant Association provided written comments in support of CB-21-2019 indicating that increasing the certification acceptance period to five years is in line with other states and the National Restaurant Association’s Serve Safe Food Manager certification standard.

Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE), Relish Market, LLC and Prince George’s County Food Equity Council provided testimony in support of CB-21-2019.