

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2017 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-59-2017

Proposed by Council Member Davis

Introduced by Council Members Davis, Harrison, Franklin, Taveras, Patterson, Glaros,
Turner, Lehman and Toles

Date of Introduction July 18, 2017

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 County Council Rules of Procedure

3 For the purpose of amending the Prince George’s County Council Rules of Procedure regarding
4 use of a short title for certain legislation by the Chair of the County Council.

5 WHEREAS, Section 316 of the Prince George’s County Charter provides for the County
6 Council to adopt and publish rules; and

7 WHEREAS, the County Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted by CR-1-1995 and
8 amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008, and CR-91-2016 are maintained by the Clerk
9 of the Council; and

10 WHEREAS, amendments to the Rules of Procedure have been proposed to provide for the
11 use of a short title by the Chairman of the County Council, at presentation and/or introduction
12 during legislative session days, where the full title of the legislation exceeds One Hundred (100)
13 words.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George’s
15 County, Maryland, that the Prince George’s County Council Rules of Procedure be and the same
16 are hereby amended.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted
18 by CR-1-1995 and amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008, and CR-91-2016 are hereby
19 repealed and readopted with the following amendments:

RULES OF PROCEDURE

FOR THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

(As Adopted By CR-1-1995 and Amended by CR-3-1996, CR-1-2008, CR-7-2008,

and CR-91-2016)

Table of Contents

* * * * *

11. PRESENTATION (FIRST READING)..... 2

11.1. Debate on Presentation (First Reading). 2

11.2. Committee Referrals. 2

* * * * *

12. INTRODUCTION (SECOND READING). 3

12.1. Debate on Introduction (Second Reading)..... 3

* * * * *

14. ENACTMENT OR ADOPTION (THIRD OR FINAL READING)..... 4

* * * * *

14.2. Final Action..... 4

* * * * *

11. PRESENTATION (FIRST READING).

11.1. Debate on Presentation (First Reading).

Bills eligible for presentation shall be listed on the Consent Agenda and the full titles shall be printed. Where the full title of a bill exceeds 100 words, the Chair may read only the short title of the bill. Unless a bill is removed from the Consent Agenda, there shall be no debate or discussion on the bill during the time it is before the Council on presentation. If the bill has been removed from the Consent Agenda, the Member presenting the bill may make an explanatory statement as to the purpose of the bill, not to exceed two minutes in length. If a Council Member desires to join in the sponsorship of the bill, the Chair shall thereupon so instruct the Clerk.

11.2. Committee Referrals.

(a) By the adoption of these rules, the Council agrees to observe the established practice of "presenting" a bill prior to introduction, thereby permitting, before Council Public Hearing Notices are advertised, in-depth examination and possible refinements after review of the legislation's fiscal effects and other pertinent information supplied by interested persons. The Council agrees that no bill shall be presented (or introduced, if presentation is bypassed) after September 30 of each year, except: (1) emergency bills; (2) Charter amendments; (3) bills appropriating funds or levying a tax; (4) bills authorizing the sale of bonds, creating a project in

1 the Capital Improvements Program, or transferring appropriations between projects in the Capital
 2 Budget; and (5) bills approving labor agreements, and attendant legislation necessary to
 3 implement the provisions of such agreements. Where the full title of a bill exceeds 100 words,
 4 the Chair may read only the short title of the bill at presentation. Upon presentation of each bill,
 5 it shall be referred by the Chair to the appropriate committee. The bill shall be returned by the
 6 committee to the Council for introduction within thirty (30) working days unless deferred for an
 7 additional period of thirty (30) working days, or unless held in committee as set forth below.
 8 Nothing herein shall preclude a committee's review of a bill prior to presentation or a resolution
 9 prior to introduction. The committee may take the following actions:

- 10 (1) Report out with favorable recommendation;
- 11 (2) Report out with unfavorable recommendation;
- 12 (3) Report out with no recommendation;
- 13 (4) Report out with favorable recommendation, as amended;
- 14 (5) Hold in committee upon request of the proposer(s) and presenter(s);
- 15 (6) Hold in committee for further study; or
- 16 (7) Hold in committee indefinitely;

17 (b) Upon introduction, each resolution shall be referred by the Chair to the appropriate
 18 committee unless the matter has already been considered by committee. Where the full title of a
 19 resolution exceeds 100 words, the Chair may read only the short title of the resolution at
 20 introduction. A resolution may be held in committee upon the request of the proposer(s).

21 * * * * *

22 (d) Any Member may introduce a bill on any Legislative Session day. If a bill is
 23 introduced without presentation, the Chair may refer the bill to committee. Where the full title of
 24 a bill exceeds 100 words, the Chair may read only the short title of the bill at introduction.

25 **12. INTRODUCTION (SECOND READING).**

26 **12.1. Debate on Introduction (Second Reading).**

27 (a) Prior to introduction the Chair shall read each bill by short title. In addition, where the
 28 full title of a bill exceeds 100 words, the Chair may read only the short title of the bill at
 29 introduction. The Chair of the committee to which the bill was referred shall provide a report of
 30 the action and recommendation of the committee. A member may address questions concerning
 31 the bill to the committee Chair, at the leave of the Presiding Officer.

1 * * * * *

2 **14. ENACTMENT OR ADOPTION (THIRD OR FINAL READING).**

3 * * * * *

4 **14.2. Final Action.**

5 (a) Prior to final action on a bill, the Chair shall read the bill by short title. In addition,
6 where the full title of a bill exceeds 100 words, the Chair may read only the short title of the bill
7 prior to final action on the bill. No bill shall be enacted except by the affirmative vote of a
8 majority of the full Council. Prior to final action on an emergency bill, the Chair shall read the
9 bill by short title and shall read the emergency stated in the bill. No emergency bill shall be
10 enacted except by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Members of the full Council.
11 Adoption of resolutions shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of the full Council. In
12 addition, where the full title of a resolution exceeds 100 words, the Chair may read only the short
13 title of the resolution prior to final action on the resolution.

14 * * * * *

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the amendments to the Rules of Procedure adopted by
16 this Resolution shall be effective on and after the date of adoption of this Resolution.

17 Adopted this 18th day of July, 2017.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Derrick Leon Davis
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council