

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-80-2024
Draft No.: 1
Committee: GOFP
Date: October 7, 2024
Action: FAV (A)

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable 5-0 Council Members (Watson, Harrison, Dernoga, Hawkins, and Oriadha).

The Prince George's County Council's Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee convened on October 7, 2024, to consider **CB-80-2024** which was presented on September 17th, 2024, and referred. CB-80 is an act concerning the Vacant Real Properties Tax Rate which would establish a real property tax rate for properties consisting of vacant houses/buildings or improved property cited as vacant and unfit for habitation or other authorized use on a housing or building violation notice.

Council staff provided an overview and noted that in accordance with the provisions of Sections 6-202.1 and 6-302 of the Tax-Property Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. Prince George's County is authorized to establish a special real property tax rate for vacant houses/buildings or impoverished property cited as vacant and unfit for habitation or other authorized use on a housing or building violation notice. The County Council authorized a Vacant Property Registry Program (CB-80-2023), which applies to unmaintained vacant real properties located in the County.

The County Council and the County Executive would be responsible for submitting a joint report to the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development and the Maryland General Assembly.

Amendments were reviewed to Subsection A Line 18 which removes the words *hereby authorized to. Line 19. Line 21 after notice before the period of the assessment, and the rate will be determined by further enactment.* The remaining sections are eliminated.

Chair Ivey, the sponsor, says the change is due to the property tax law TRIM. Amendments were made to ensure compliance. Trim is intended to protect residents,

not banks. A vote from the General Assembly will be requested to ensure that the County is authorized.

Ms. Skinner representing the Office of the County Executive stated the administration is in support with the amendments.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council's Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee reported CB-80-2024 5-0 favorably as amended.