

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2026 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-017-2026

Chapter No. 13

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Oriadha

Introduced by Council Member Oriadha

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction March 31, 2026

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Use and Occupancy Permit Fees

3 For the purpose of establishing specific use and occupancy permit fees for certain uses; creating
4 renewal fees for such uses; establishing a nonlapsing Quality of Life Improvement Fund; and
5 generally relating to use and occupancy permit fees.

6 BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

7 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

8 Section 2-253.63

9 The Prince George's County Code

10 (2023 Edition; 2025 Supplement).

11 WHEREAS certain commercial uses have a documented and detrimental impact on quality
12 of life outcomes;

13 WHEREAS studies have shown that neighborhoods with a high density of alcohol outlets
14 are associated with higher rates of violence, regardless of other community characteristics such
15 as poverty and age of residents and high alcohol outlet density has been shown to be related to
16 increased rates of drinking and driving, motor vehicle-related pedestrian injuries, and child abuse
17 and neglect;

18 WHEREAS Prince George's County has 17.8 liquor stores per every 100,000 resident, in the
19 second worst quartile of the nation;

20 WHEREAS 7,500 adults in Maryland die each year due to tobacco-related causes, hundreds
21 of thousands more suffer from tobacco-related diseases such as COPD, emphysema or cancers,

1 and non-smokers – especially young children (and even pets) – are also affected by tobacco
2 through exposure to the toxins found in secondhand smoke;

3 **WHEREAS** youth are using other tobacco products, such as flavored little cigars and
4 cigarillos, at a higher rate than cigarettes, and the number of youth using new/emerging products,
5 such as e-cigarettes, e-hookah, vape pens, has increased dramatically since 2011;

6 **WHEREAS** Prince George’s County had the second highest number of firearm-related
7 deaths in Maryland between January 2015 and September 2025 and gun-related incidents by
8 youth in the county increased by more than 200 percent between 2020 and 2023;

9 **WHEREAS** self-storage facilities, also known as consolidated storage facilities, pose several
10 risks to public health and safety, primarily stemming from the improper storage of hazardous
11 materials, poor sanitation, and the potential for illegal, unsafe, or criminal activities. These
12 facilities can become breeding grounds for pests, sources of environmental contamination, and,
13 in some cases, fire hazards due to the concentration of combustible materials;

14 **WHEREAS** the Prince George’s County governing body finds that alcohol, tobacco,
15 firearm, and self-storage-related uses have a particularly detrimental impact on Prince George’s
16 County’s quality of life and commercial establishments that sell liquor, tobacco products,
17 firearms, and self-storage services can only operate in Prince George’s County with a valid Use
18 and Occupancy permit; and

19 **WHEREAS** a use and occupancy permit is a permit for use of a ‘building’ for the purposes
20 of Section 813(d)(1) of the Charter, now, therefore;

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
22 Maryland, that Section 2-253.63 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby
23 repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

24 **SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.**

25 **DIVISION 14C. FEES AND CHARGES.**

26 **Sec. 2-253.63. Fees and Charges.**

27 (a) This fee schedule applies to fees and charges assessed by Prince George's County,
28 Maryland for regulated activities that occur within its jurisdiction.

29 * * * * *

30 (d) Subject to Subsection (j), below, [T]the Director of the Department of Permitting,
31 Inspections and Enforcement shall establish and maintain a comprehensive Table of Fees, as

1 referenced and included in this Bill, for all types of permits. The Director or the County Council
2 shall have the authority to change the fees from time to time as is determined necessary; and the
3 Director shall republish the Table of Fees which shall be posted in the Department of Permitting,
4 Inspections and Enforcement's Permit Office and on its website. Prior to implementing a change
5 in the fees, the Director of the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement shall hold
6 public informational sessions to allow for public comment as part of this process. The Director
7 shall also submit the proposed Table of Fees to the County Executive for approval and for
8 transmittal to the County Council for legislative review and approval by resolution, after notice
9 and public hearing.

10 * * * * *

11 (f) Fees may be adjusted using a method established by the International Code Council and
12 industry standards pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e) of this Section. Any changes to fees and
13 charges that are not connected to the International Code Council or industry standards, except for
14 those prescribed in Subsection (j), below, shall be changed by County Council approval by
15 resolution, after notice and public hearing.

16 * * * * *

17 (j) Special Quality of Life Impact Uses.

18 (1) The following fees shall apply and be remitted in advance of the issuance of Use and
19 Occupancy permits for the following uses:

20 (A) Any business that is a commercial use with a Class A beer, wine, and liquor
21 license pursuant to Title 26, Subtitle 9 of the Alcoholic Beverages and Cannabis Article,
22 Annotated Code of Maryland - \$5000;

23 (B) Any business that is a tobacco shop, electronic cigarette shop, retail tobacco
24 business, or convenience store use, as prescribed under Part 27-5 of Subtitle 27 of the Code, with
25 a tobacco retail license issued by the Maryland Alcohol, Tobacco, and Cannabis Commission -
26 \$5000;

27 (C) Any business that is a commercial use operating pursuant to a State of Maryland
28 Regulated Firearms Dealer's License under Title 5, Subtitle 1 of the Public Safety Article,
29 Annotated Code of Maryland - \$5000; and

30 (D) Any business that is a consolidated storage use, as prescribed under Part 27-5 of
31 Subtitle 27 of the Code - \$5000

1 (2) Renewal fee. Each business to which Paragraph (1), above, is applicable shall be
2 required to remit an annual Use and Occupancy permit renewal fee in the amount of \$5000 per
3 year due every 12 months after the date of initial use and occupancy permit approval. Any
4 business defined under (A), (B), (C), or (D) in Paragraph (1), above, with an existing Use and
5 Occupancy permit as of the effective date of this Subsection shall commence remitting an annual
6 Use and Occupancy permit renewal fee due no later than January 1, 2027 of \$5000 and by every
7 January 1st thereafter. The Use and Occupancy permit of any business that does not comply with
8 this Paragraph shall be invalid and revoked by the Director of the Department of Permitting
9 Inspections and Enforcement.

10 (3) Revocation. The Use and Occupancy permit of any business that does not comply
11 with this Paragraph shall be invalid and revoked by the Director of the Department of Permitting,
12 Inspections, and Enforcement. Prior to the revocation of a permit under this paragraph, the
13 Director shall give written notice to the permittee setting forth the basis of the revocation. Any
14 person whose permit is revoked under this paragraph may appeal the decision of the Director to
15 the Board of Administrative Appeals for Prince George's County within ten (10) calendar days
16 after receipt of notice of revocation.

17 (4) As a courtesy, the Director of the Department of Permitting Inspections and
18 Enforcement may notify in writing any business that is subject to a Use and Occupancy permit
19 renewal fee requirement pursuant to this Subsection of its renewal fee obligation at least 90 days
20 before the renewal fee due date and may grant up to a 90-day grace period for late renewal fee
21 payments. Failure to provide this discretionary renewal notice is not a legal basis to challenge the
22 revocation of the Use and Occupancy permit or any other enforcement action taken pursuant to
23 this Subtitle.

24 (5) On February 1st of each year, the Director of the Department of Permitting,
25 Inspections, and Enforcement shall increase the fees prescribed in this Subsection by the greater
26 of (i) the average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington-
27 Arlington-Alexandria area published by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics for the previous
28 calendar year or (ii) zero percent.

29 (6) Quality of Life Improvement Fund. The Office of Finance shall establish and
30 administer a Quality of Life Improvement Fund, a nonlapsing fund into which all fees remitted in
31 accordance with this Subsection shall be deposited and that shall not revert to the County fund

1 balance at the end of each fiscal year. Funds from the Quality of Life Improvement Fund shall be
2 used solely for the following:

3 (A) Quality of life improvements for the residents of Prince George's County, which
4 may include, but are not limited to including:

5 (i) Youth, child care, and educational programs, projects, and initiatives;

6 (ii) Public health and senior wellness programs, projects, and initiatives;

7 (iii) Public safety, pedestrian safety, and road and transit safety programs, projects,
8 and initiatives; and

9 (iv) Economic assistance programs, projects, and initiatives for residents and
10 businesses in socioeconomically disadvantaged circumstances; and

11 (v) Administrative costs associated with operating quality of life improvement
12 programs identified in this subparagraph.

13 (B) At the time of remittance, 10% of the fees remitted to the Quality of Life
14 Improvement Fund shall be disbursed to the Prince George's County Early Start Child Care
15 Scholarship Fund and 5% of the fees remitted to the Quality of Life Improvement Fund shall be
16 disbursed to the Child Care Facilities Loan Program.

17 (C) Except for disbursements mandated by Subparagraph (B), above, any
18 disbursements from the Quality of Life Improvement Fund shall be proposed and approved by
19 County Council resolution.

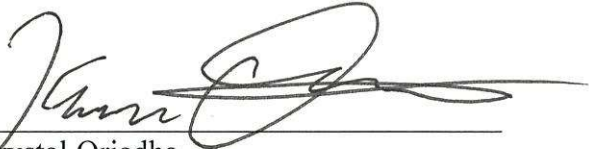
20 (7) This Subsection shall not apply to any use that is operating as a gas station.

21 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby
22 declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph,
23 sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of
24 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining
25 words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this
26 Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such
27 invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,
28 or section.

29 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
30 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 21st day of April, 2026.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: 
Krystal Oriadha
Chair

ATTEST:



Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Aisha N. Braveboy
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

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