

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**COMMITTEE REPORT**  
**2019 Legislative Session**

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**Reference No.:** CB-006-2019

**Draft No.:** 1

**Committee:** GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FISCAL POLICY

**Date:** 9/26/2019

**Action:** FAV

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**REPORT:** Favorable 5-0: Council Members Davis, Dernoga, Anderson-Walker, Hawkins and Streeter.

CB-6-2016 seeks to amend the County's Code of Ethics to conform to State Law.

The proposed legislation seeks to repeal and re-enact the current Ethics Code with enhancements which conform with amendments to legislation enacted by the State in 2017. These enactments will prohibit the disclosure of certain personal information contained in the financial disclosure statement from public disclosure, will restrict the disclosure of indebtedness to entities doing business with the County to those which are doing business with the filer's agency, department, board or commission and will require disclosure of those entities for which a filer's spouse has engaged in lobbying activities. Proposed amendments will also restrict elected officials who leave office, from lobbying on matters they covered, for a period of one (1) year after leaving office and requires former registered lobbyist who become County Officials or employees from participating on matters in which they lobbied previously for one (1) year.

During the Committee meeting, LaShanda Whaley, Counsel to the Board of Ethics, provided the Committee a detailed overview of the proposed legislation and the compliance requirements.

The Office of Law finds CB-6-2019 to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its enactment.

The Office of Audits and Investigations reports that enactment of CB-6-2019 may have an indirect fiscal impact to the County by enhancing the impartiality and independent judgement of County elected officials, employees, and individuals who are appointed to County Boards and Commissions.

After discussion, The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee voted CB-6-2019 out favorably, 5-0.