

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL  
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

---

**Meeting Date:** 10/17/2000

**Reference No.:** CB-75-2000

**Proposer:** County Executive

**Draft No.:** 3

**Sponsors:** Gourdine, Shapiro

**Item Title:** An Act defining litter and increasing the fines and other penalties for litter offenses under The Road Ordinance of Prince George's County, Maryland, and generally relating to litter

---

**Drafter:** Karen T. Anderson  
Law

**Resource** Betty Hager Francis  
**Personnel:** DPW&T

---

**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:**

**Date Presented:** 7/25/2000

**Executive Action:** 11/6/2000 S

**Committee Referral:** 7/25/2000 THE

**Effective Date:** 12/22/2000

**Committee Action:** 9/14/2000 FAV(A)

**Date Introduced:** 9/26/2000

**Public Hearing:** 10/17/2000 1:30 P.M.

**Council Action:** 10/17/2000 ENACTED

**Council Votes:** DB:A, JE:A, IG:A, TH:A, WM:A, RVR:A, AS:A, PS:A, MW:-

**Pass/Fail:** P

**Remarks:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

**10/17/2000:** DR-2 amended on the floor; DR-3 enacted

**TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** DATE: 9/14/00

Committee Vote: Favorable as amended, 4-0 (In favor: Council Members Shapiro, Hendershot, Maloney and Wilson).

Staff summarized the legislation indicating that CB-75-2000 defines "litter" and increases the fines and other penalties for litter and dumping offenses in Prince George's County. The County Executive indicates that during the 2000 Legislative Session the General Assembly passed

legislation that enabled Prince George's County to adopt an ordinance imposing the same criminal penalties and fines for litter and dumping offenses as does the State of Maryland and other local jurisdictions. CB-75-2000 will implement this enhanced authority.

In May of 1999 a County Anti-Litter Task Force was established in an effort to identify the specific contributing causes of the County's growing litter and dumping problem and to recommend solutions to eliminate these causes. CB-75-2000 is one of the Task Force's many recommendations.

Ms. Betty Hager Francis, Director of Public Works and Transportation, explained that CB-75-2000 provides Prince George's County with the same tools that the State and municipalities currently have to combat the growing problem of roadside trash and other illegal trash disposal activities. Ms. Francis further explained that in Fiscal Year 1998, it cost the taxpayers over \$4.4 million in the governments' (Federal, State and County) attempt to address the roadside problem in Prince George's County. The most serious instances of illegal dumping involve primarily commercial operations, which dump large loads of such things as construction debris, old tires, old carpet, tree limbs and grass clippings, as well as bulky trash items such as stoves, refrigerators and other appliances.

The Office of Law determined that the bill is in proper legislative form. The Legislative Officer provided technical amendments that are reflected in Draft 2. The County Executive supports CB-75-2000.

## **BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT**

**(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)**

This legislation will define litter and increase the fines and other penalties for litter offenses under The Road Ordinance of Prince George's County, Maryland.

## **CODE INDEX TOPICS:**