

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-073-2024

Draft No.: 2

Committee: TIEE

Date: 10/10/2024

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable as Amended, 3-0 (In Favor: Council Members Olson, Burroughs, and Dernoga).

The Committee convened on September 26, and again on October 10, 2024, to discuss CB-73-2024, which clarifies the County's Noise Abatement policy. As proposed, the legislation codifies an additional measurement of sound (dBC), prohibits the cause or permission of certain levels of sounds beyond the property line of the source, prohibits the operation of off-road internal combustion engine-powered recreational vehicles, removes provisions regarding waivers and exceptions for compliance with state law, and adds provisions describing exemptions from the ordinance.

CB-73 also proposes fine increases (from \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for each subsequent offense) to \$1,000 for the first offense and \$1,500 for each subsequent offense. A civil citation may be issued to an owner/landlord if two or more civil citations are filed against the occupant of the owner/landlord's premises.

DPIE staff expressed concerns regarding the cost of acquiring the new sound-measuring equipment and training staff to implement the bill's provisions. As a result, the committee approved an amendment allowing the issuance of regulations that go into effect on July 1, 2026.

After discussion, the Committee voted favorably on CB-73-2024 as amended by a vote of 3-0.