

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

2001 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-4-2001

Chapter No. 33

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Maloney

Introduced by Council Member Maloney

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction July 10, 2001

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Spending Affordability Committee For the Prince George's Portion of the Maryland-National
3 Capital Park and Planning Commission

4 For the purpose of establishing a Spending Affordability Committee for the Prince George's
5 portion of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, providing for
6 membership and providing duties and responsibilities.

7 BY adding:

8 SUBTITLE 10. FINANCE AND TAXATION.

9 Sections 10-112.31 and 10-112.32,

10 The Prince George's County Code

11 (1999 Edition, 2000 Supplement).

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
13 Maryland, that Sections 10-112.31 and 10-112.32 of the Prince George's County Code be and the
14 same are hereby added:

15 SUBTITLE 10. FINANCE AND TAXATION.

16 **DIVISION 1A. SPENDING AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEES.**

17 **Sec. 10-112.31. Spending Affordability Committee for the Prince George's portion of the**
18 **Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.**

19 (a) There is hereby created a Spending Affordability Committee for the Prince George's
20 portion of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission ("the Commission")
21 which shall be composed of three (3) members. The Director of the Office of Management and

1 Budget and the County Auditor shall serve ex officio, and one member shall be a person who is
 2 not an employee of the County government or of the Commission. They shall have a
 3 background in budgeting, financial planning, public finance, accounting, or a related field and
 4 shall be appointed by the County Council for a term of two years. The Committee shall select its
 5 own chairman.

6 (b) The County Executive and the Commission shall provide assistance to the Committee.
 7 The Commission and all County agencies shall cooperate at all levels with the Committee in
 8 providing requested information.

9 **Sec. 10-112.32. Duties and Responsibilities.**

10 (a) The Spending Affordability Committee shall make recommendations to the County
 11 Council concerning:

12 (1) Spending affordability of the Commission;

13 (2) Ways to improve the budgetary procedures at the Commission level and at the
 14 Council level; and

15 (3) Other related areas upon request of the County Council or the County Executive.

16 (b) On or before August 31 of each year, the Committee shall submit to the County
 17 Council and the County Executive a preliminary report recommending spending levels for each
 18 of the Commission tax supported operating funds and guidelines for the Commission's capital
 19 budget. Spending levels shall be consistent with the capacity of the tax base and other revenue
 20 sources available to the Commission to finance its programs and its long-term debt. A copy of
 21 this report shall be filed with the Clerk of the Council and shall be made available for public
 22 inspection. The Committee shall also review and comment upon any revised revenue estimate
 23 based upon revisions in the assessable base provided by the State Department of Assessments
 24 and Taxation.

25 (1) The report shall provide recommendations for the following spending
 26 affordability guidelines:

27 (A) A ceiling on total appropriations in the forthcoming fiscal year;

28 (B) Debt service;

29 (C) Appropriate reserves for each of the funds; and

1 (D) The establishment of tax rates necessary to support each of the appropriations
2 referred to in Subsection (b)(1)(A) and such other matters that are relevant to the preparation of
3 the Commission's budget.

4 (c) On or before December 4 of each year, the Committee shall submit to the County
5 Council a final report on spending affordability guidelines for the proposed capital and operating
6 budgets for the forthcoming fiscal year as required by Subsection (b). This report shall contain
7 the Committee's final recommendations concerning spending affordability guidelines and shall,
8 in estimating revenues, utilize the most recent assessable base information. A copy of this report
9 shall be filed with the Clerk of the Council and be made available for public inspection. In
10 developing spending affordability guidelines, the Committee shall consider, where applicable,
11 the factors utilized by the County Spending Affordability Committee as set forth in Section 10-
12 112.22 of the Code.

13 (d) In approving the Commission's capital and operating budgets, the County Council shall
14 consider the Spending Affordability Committee's recommendations. If the proposed budgets
15 exceed any of the recommended affordability guidelines, the Council must explain in writing the
16 justification for exceeding any of the recommendations before enacting the Commission's
17 budgets and levying tax rates required to support them.

1 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect on forty-five (45)
2 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 31st day of July, 2001.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Ronald V. Russell
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Wayne K. Curry
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.