

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2017 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-14-2017

Draft No.: 2

Committee: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Date: October 17, 2017

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT: October 17, 2017

Committee Vote: Favorable with Amendments 5-0 (In favor: Council Members Turner, Lehman, Franklin, Patterson and Taveras)

CB-14-2017 (DR-2) repeals the electronic transaction fee to be paid by pawn dealers and secondhand precious metal objects dealers. The State law requires electronic reporting and provides that the State law may not be construed to require a pawn dealers or secondhand precious metal objects dealers to obtain additional computer software at their expense or to pay a transaction fee to submit an electronic report pursuant to State law.

CB-14-2017 (DR-2) expressly provides for the imposition of an electronic transaction fee for secondhand dealers. This fee is not prohibited under State law. The State law regarding the prohibition of electronic transaction fees is applicable to pawn dealers and secondhand precious metal objects dealers, and not to secondhand dealers.

Nathaniel Tutt, County Executive Liaison, spoke in support of the legislation indicating that it is an important tool for the Police Department in protecting County residents.

The Office of Law commented that the proposed electronic transaction fee may be subject to referendum pursuant to Section 813 of the County Charter. The Office of Law was directed to further opine whether the proposed electronic fee, if enacted, would be subject to referendum. The Chairman also provided that the Charter Review Commission review this issue.

The Office of Audits and Investigation indicated that enactment of CB-14-2017 should not have an adverse fiscal impact on the County.