

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2025 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-096-2025

Chapter No. _____

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Hawkins

Introduced by _____

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction October 7, 2025

BILL

AN ACT concerning

Returning Citizen Employment Opportunities Act of 2025

For the purpose of reducing recidivism and improving public safety by requiring that a certain percentage of the work hours on certain public procurement projects be worked by returning citizens, subject to certain conditions; and generally relating to the employment of returning citizens.

BY adding:

SUBTITLE 10A. PURCHASING.

Section 10A-172.01,

The Prince George's County Code

(2023 Edition; 2024 Supplement).

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that Section 10A-172.01 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby added:

SUBTITLE 10A. PURCHASING.

DIVISION 7. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

SUBDIVISION 2A. RETURNING CITIZEN EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.

Sec. 10A-172.01. Returning Citizen Work Requirement in Specified Public Procurements.

(a) Purpose. The purpose of this Section is to:

(1) promote the employment of returning citizens who have been incarcerated for or

1 convicted of a criminal offense and face obstacles in reentering the workforce; and

2 (2) promote the effective re-entry of citizens transitioning from incarceration or
 3 conviction back into society in a manner that fosters positive rehabilitation and reduces the
 4 likelihood of reoffending, thereby improving public safety.

5 (b) Definitions. In this Section, the following words have the following meanings:

6 (1) **Returning citizen** means a citizen of the United States who has previously been
 7 confined for any period of time in a facility or environment that is intended to restrict a person's
 8 movement and freedom, including but not limited to: a federal, state, or local correctional
 9 facility; home detention; or electronic monitoring, as a form of punishment as a result of a
 10 criminal conviction.

11 (c) Requirement.

12 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Subtitle, for any new construction or
 13 public works, roadway maintenance, or property maintenance contract or procurement
 14 authorized by this Subtitle or otherwise administered by any County agency or quasi-County
 15 agency, at least five percent (5%) of the work hours worked in performing such contract or
 16 procurement shall be worked by one or more returning citizens.

17 (2) For existing contracts or procurements, this requirement shall be imposed at the time
 18 of any renewal or extension of such contracts or procurements.

19 (d) Implementation. In fulfilling the requirement of Subsection (c), above, qualified
 20 individuals referred in writing by Employ Prince George's (and/or any other entity designated by
 21 the County Executive) to the entity awarded the contract or procurement shall receive first
 22 preference by the entity and its subcontractors, if any, in working the hours required to comply
 23 with the requirement.

24 (e) Waiver. On a procurement-by-procurement (or contract-by-contract) basis, the Director
 25 of the Office of Procurement may waive and either remove or reduce the requirement of
 26 Subsection (c), above, if the Director of the Office of Procurement determines in writing that:

27 (1) the requirement would violate federal or state law;

28 (2) the requirement would create an unreasonable liability risk to the County; or

29 (3) there is an insufficient number of qualified returning citizens available to fulfill the
 30 requirement.

31 (f) Enforcement. Compliance with this Section shall be a written condition of any contract or

procurement subject to this Section, or the contract or procurement shall be void.

(g) Reporting. Any entity awarded a procurement or contract subject to the requirements of this Section shall report in writing in a manner and frequency determined by the Director of the Office of Procurement on the progress of compliance with the requirement of Subsection (c), above, during the performance of such contract or procurement.

(h) Regulations authorized. The Director of the Office of Procurement may promulgate regulations to govern the implementation of this Section, provided that such regulations are consistent with the provisions of this Section.

SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection, or section.

SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2025.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Edward P. Burroughs, III
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____

Aisha N. Braveboy
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.

[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.

Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

* * * * *