

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORT
2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-053-2024

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: June 4, 2024

Action: FAV (A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 10-0 (In favor Chair Ivey, Vice Chair Harrison, Blegay, Dernoga, Fisher, Franklin, Hawkins, Olson, Oriadha and Watson)

Absent: Council Member Burroughs

The County Council convened in the Committee of the Whole (COW) on June 4, 2024, to consider CR-053-2024. The resolution was introduced and referred to the COW on the same date.

Colette Gresham, Deputy Council Administrator, provided an overview of the resolution. The proposed legislation aims to create a comprehensive and sustainable solution to address the needs of the senior citizens in the County. It would also involve developing a strategic plan that addresses critical needs and challenges through a holistic approach.

To implement this strategic plan, the task force would collaborate with relevant stakeholders, including government agencies, nonprofit organizations, and community groups. The task force would consist of 11 members representing senior citizens, including representatives from the Prince George's County Association of Workers, the Maryland State Department of Assessment and Taxation, the AARP Suitland Chapter Number 939, the Park and Planning Commission, the Director of Finance, the Director of Social Services, Family Services as well as the County Auditor, and three senior citizens representing the northern, central and southern geographic areas of the county.

Additionally, on page 3, line 4 of the legislation, the completion date for the task force to submit their findings and recommendations should be February 28, 2025, which was omitted.

Vice Chair Harrison made a motion to move favorable as amended on CR-053-2024, highlighting that seniors voiced concerns about the tax credit and expressed numerous other concerns for more support. He stressed the importance of addressing broader issues like affordable housing and healthcare and finding common ground to support the senior population.

Council Member Watson seconded the motion to move favorable as amended on CR-053-2024.

Council Member Dernoga suggested having representation of a 24-person Commission on Aging that covers many of the responsibilities noted in the legislation. He also questioned the designation of a specific AARP Chapter, stating that we could refer to an AARP representative, which would include them.

After discussion, the COW voted favorable as amended 10-0 on CR-053-2024.