



Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 11/19/2019

Effective Date: 2/3/2020

Reference No.: CB-006-2019

Chapter Number: 37

Draft No.: 1

Public Hearing Date: 11/19/2019 @ 11:00 AM

Proposer(s): County Executive

Sponsor(s): Turner, Harrison, Davis, Streeter, Glaros, Dernoga, Taveras and Franklin

Item Title: AN ACT CONCERNING CODE OF ETHICS for the purpose of amending the Code of Ethics in order to conform to State law, changing certain restrictions and requirements for County employees and officials.

Drafter: LaShanda R. Whaley, Legal Counsel, Office of Ethics and Accountability

Resource Personnel: LaShanda R. Whaley, Legal Counsel, Office of Ethics and Accountability
Robin Barnes-Shell, Executive Director, Office of Ethics and Accountability

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date:	Acting Body:	Action:	Sent To:
03/26/2019	County Council	presented and referred	COW
	Action Text: This Council Bill was presented by the Chairman, by request of the County Executive, and referred to the Committee of the Whole		
09/10/2019	County Council	discharged from Committee	
	Action Text: A motion was made by Vice Chair Streeter, seconded by Council Member Glaros, that this Council Bill be discharged from Committee of the Whole and referred to the Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 10 Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras Absent: 1 Hawkins		
09/26/2019	GOPP	Favorably recommended	County Council
	Action Text: A motion was made by Council Member Streeter, seconded by Council Member Anderson-Walker, that this Council Bill be Favorably recommended to the County Council. The motion carried by the following vote: Aye: 5 Davis, Dernoga, Anderson-Walker, Hawkins and Streeter		
10/22/2019	County Council	introduced	

Action Text:

This Council Bill was introduced by Council Members Turner, Harrison, Davis, Streeter, Glaros, Dernoga, Taveras and Franklin.

11/19/2019 County Council public hearing held

Action Text:

This public hearing was held.

11/19/2019 County Council enacted

Action Text:

A motion was made by Council Member Harrison, seconded by Council Member Davis, that this Council Bill be enacted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 11 Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras

12/18/2019 County Executive signed

Action Text:

This Council Bill was signed

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

02-294 02-293 02-292

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

This legislation will amend the County's Code of Ethics as follows:

1. Reflect changes recently made by the Maryland General Assembly to the State Ethics Laws. During the 2017 legislative session, the General Assembly, enacted legislation requiring prohibiting the disclosure of certain personal information (home address of filer) contained in a financial disclosure statement from being subject to public disclosure. The changes also modify the disclosure of indebtedness to entities doing business with the County, to restrict the reporting to only those entities which are doing business with the filer's agency, department, board or commission.
2. Requires designated filers of financial disclosure statements to disclose those entities for which their spouse has engaged in lobbying activity.
3. Requires elected officials who leave to refrain from lobbying on a matters that is the subject of legislative action for a period of one year after leaving office.
4. Requires former registered lobbyists who become County employees or officials to refrain from participating in matters in which they previously assisted or represented another party for compensation in the matter prior to employment with the County for a period of one year from the date of their termination as a registered lobbyist.

The proposed amendments to the Code of Ethics embodied in this legislation have been approved by the State Ethics Commission.

