



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Chairman
Derrick Leon Davis
Council Member, District 6

MAR 28 2017

The Hon. Joan Carter Conway, Chair
Senate Ed., Health, and Env. Affairs
2 West Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

The Hon. Kumar P. Barve, Chair
House Environment and Transportation
Lowe House Office Building, Room 251
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: **Bill Position** – HB 321 – Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning
Commission – Audit Committee and Office of the Inspector General – **SUPPORT AS
AMENDED**

Dear Senator Conway & Delegate Barve:

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Prince George's County Council, to transmit our position on HB 321 – Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission – Audit Committee and Office of the Inspector General, which is before you this 2017 General Assembly Session. The Council met on March 28, 2017. The enclosed statement reflects our position as the bill is currently drafted.

The Council appreciates the opportunity to work together with you and your colleagues to address issues important to Maryland citizens and the operation of Prince George's County. Should you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me. For your convenience my office phone number is (301) 952-3426. Thanks again, for favorable consideration of the Council's position.

Sincerely,

Derrick L. Davis
Chair

Enclosure

cc:
Prince George's County Delegation
Montgomery County Delegation
Hon. Rushern L. Baker, III, County Executive

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(301) 952-3700
County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

MC/PG 110 (HB 321) Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning
Montgomery and Commission – Audit Committee and Office of the
Prince George's Inspector General
County Delegation

POSITION:

SUPPORT AS AMENDED

HB321 - MNCPPC – Audit Committee and Office of the Inspector General creates a 5-member Audit Committee within the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission (Commission) and establishes an Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Under this bill the Commission's Office of Internal Audit would be reconstituted to become the OIG which would conduct administrative investigations, and budgetary analyses. Additionally, the OIG would be charged with the execution of financial, management, and performance audits. The bill grants the OIG with the authority to subpoena any person or evidence for the purpose of investigating fraud, waste, or abuse within the Commission.

The Council initially questioned the purpose of this bill, reasoning that the duties detailed within the legislation should be carried out by the Internal Auditor. Additionally, the Council expressed concern regarding the fiscal impact this bill would cause the two counties to incur. The Commission has assured this Council that the internal auditors' authority is currently limited, and that these organizational adjustments are necessary to promote efficiency, and effectiveness in the administration of the programs and contracts administered by the Commission, and will assist them with preventing and detecting fraud and abuse within their operations. Further, the Commission advises that the fiscal impact will be minimal, and estimates those costs to be \$45,000 to cover expenses such as outside counsel, subpoena services, etc.

Therefore, the County Council offers a position of **SUPPORT AS AMENDED** on **MC/PG 110-17 (HB 321)** and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: Tony Perez
LA Perez Consulting
Jennifer A. Jenkins
On behalf of Prince George's County Council