

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 5/21/2002

Reference No.: CB-19-2002

Proposer: County Executive

Draft No.: 2

Sponsors: Scott

Item Title: An Act providing for a Single Day Event Permit and reducing the permit fee for a single day event for certain special food service facilities if the permit application is submitted to the Health Department fourteen calendar days or more prior to the event

Drafter: Kathleen H. Canning
Office of Law

Resource Arthur Thacher
Personnel: Health Officer

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: 3/26/2002 **Executive Action:** 6/6/2002 S

Committee Referral: 3/26/2002 HEHS **Effective Date:** 7/22/2002

Committee Action: 4/23/2002 FAV(A)

Date Introduced: 4/30/2002

Public Hearing: 5/21/2002 10:15 A.M.

Council Action: 5/21/2002 ENACTED

Council Votes: PS:A, DB:-, TD:A, JE:A, TH:A, RVR:A, AS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE DATE: 4/23/02

Committee Vote: Favorable as Amended, 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Hendershot, Esteppe and Scott)

Staff summarized the legislation and presented referral comments that were received. CB-19-2002 amends Subtitle 12. Health. of the Prince George's County Code. Reducing the fee for the single day permit will encourage vendors to apply for a permit in a timely manner, thereby allow for more efficient planning, preparation and staffing. The fee for a Single Day Event Permit if the application is submitted fourteen (14) calendar days or more prior to the event is \$25.00. If an application is received fewer than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to an event, the permit fee shall be \$75.00.

The Director of the Health Department indicated that permits for one day events is existing state law. However, due to the increase of permits, CB-19-2002 proposes an incentive for participants to apply in a timely manner, allowing Health Department staff time to process the permit.

The Health Department staff indicated that currently they are conducting 92% of the required food service facility inspections as compared to one-half of the required amount two years ago. Last year 402 single day event permits were issued and inspections conducted.

It was mentioned that non profit organizations operating for a temporary period, food and drink concessions which are staffed solely by members of the organization shall not be required to pay the permit fees. However, the organizations are required to obtain a permit.

A Council Member raised the question regarding informing the public of the fourteen (14) calendar day prior submittal incentive. The Health Department staff indicated that a list of past participants as well as festival participants has been developed.

The County Executive supports CB-19-2002. The Legislative Officer and the Office of Law finds CB-19-2002 to be in proper legislative form. The Office of Audits and Investigations determined that there should not be any negative fiscal impact on the County as a result of enacting CB-19-2002. The reduction of the permit fee for a single day event if the application is submitted to the Health Department fourteen calendar days or more prior to the event will allow staff additional time for planning which should reduce overhead costs.

Staff presented a proposed draft 2 that included a table for the permit fees instead of the text used in the existing and proposed law.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This legislation provides for a Single Day Event Permit and reduces the permit fee for a single day event for certain special food service facilities if the permit application is submitted to the Health Department fourteen calendar days or more prior to the event. This change would not affect waiver of an application fee for any certified non-profit organization.

The number of single day festivals and celebrations taking place in the County where food is served or sold to the public has grown over the past several years. Permits for these events require a review of the permit application and inspection of the food service operations. The reduced fee for the single day permit will encourage vendors to apply for a permit in a timely manner, thereby allowing for more efficient planning, preparation and staffing.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: