



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Office of Audits and Investigations

September 28, 2016

MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert J. Williams, Jr.
Council Administrator

William M. Hunt
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: David H. Van Dyke *DHV*
County Auditor

FROM: Inez N. Claggett *IUC*
Senior Legislative Auditor

RE: Fiscal Impact Statement
CB-59-2016 Landlord Tenant Code: Drug Activity and Prostitution

Pursuant to your request, we have reviewed CB-59-2016 to estimate its fiscal impact on Prince George's County, Maryland.

CB-59-2016 seeks to expand and clarify laws governing the use of an apartment for drug activities in violation of the Controlled Dangerous Substance Laws of the State of Maryland. The Bill also proposes similar provisions and penalties for the violation of Prostitution Laws, which includes Human Trafficking Laws, in this case.

Also, proposed within the Bill is an education component which requires voluntary registration with the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) for training. DPIE will be responsible for providing updates on voluntary registration to the County's Human Relations Commission which shall offer voluntary training, in collaboration with the County's Police Department, on the identification of human trafficking activities and human trafficking victims, to property owners, landlords, landlord agents, or management staff, who rent apartments within Prince George's County. Training session costs will be borne by the participating apartment owners. Apartment rental owners may voluntarily certify training completion with DPIE beginning in calendar year 2018. Regulations governing the annual certification process shall be established by DPIE sixty (60) days after enactment of CB-59-2016.

Human Relations Commission (HRC) staff provided details related to the production of a human trafficking training video currently underway to be used for training hotel and motel owners, management and staff. They estimate that complete production of the video will cost approximately \$20,000. The current video could be modified to include the necessary human trafficking training language for apartment owners, however, it would increase the production cost of the video to approximately \$35,000. The proposed Bill allows for the cost of trainings provided to apartment owners to be borne by the participating apartment owners, therefore, over a duration of time HRC staff feels the cost of producing the video could be

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recovered. This would be dependent upon the cost apartment owners will be expected to pay for the voluntary training, the number of trainings that are actually offered, and if the trainings would require the presence of HRC or County staff to lead the sessions.

Enactment of CB-59-2016 would have a potential fiscal impact to the County of \$35,000 should the training video be produced to include language that is inclusive of apartment owners.

If you require additional information, or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please call me.