

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2006 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-88-2006

Chapter No. _____

Proposed and Presented by The Chairman (by request – County Executive)

Introduced by Council Members Harrington, Bland, Hendershot, Exum, Dernoga, Dean

Knotts and Peters

Date of Introduction October 31, 2006

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Senior Assistance Program

3 For the purpose of establishing a Senior Assistance Program to assist senior citizens of the
 4 County who are the head of household and County residents and who are in need of financial
 5 assistance, and generally relating to administration of the Senior Assistance Program.

6 BY adding:

7 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

8 DIVISION 3A. SENIOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

9 Sections 2-115.01, 2-115.02, 2-115.03, 2-115.04,
 10 2-115.05 and 2-115.06,

11 The Prince George's County Code
 12 (2003 Edition, 2005 Supplement).

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
 14 Maryland, that Sections 2-115.01, 2-115.02, 2-115.03, 2-115.04, 2-115.05 and 2-115.06 of the
 15 Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby added:

16 SUBTITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION.

17 **DIVISION 3A. SENIOR ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.**

18 **Sec. 2-115.01. Statement of Policy.**

19 It is declared to be the public policy of Prince George's County, Maryland (the "County")
 20 to promote, respect and protect all of the County's senior citizens through County policies and
 21 County laws. Senior citizens are valued citizens and residents of the County including those

1 senior citizens who are in need of financial assistance. There exists within the County senior
 2 citizens who are in need of assistance with living expenses. In order to assist senior citizens of
 3 the County who are the head of household and County residents, it is necessary that the County
 4 provide funding to make payment to eligible residents who are 65 years of age and older.

5 **Sec. 2-115.02. Senior Assistance Program.**

6 (a) There is hereby established a Senior Assistance Program. The Senior Assistance
 7 Program shall be administered by the Department of Family Services.

8 (b) Subject to appropriation, each fiscal year, funds in the County General Fund shall be
 9 made available to financially support senior citizens of the County. Senior Assistance Program
 10 funds shall be identified as Non-Departmental funds by the Office of Management and Budget.

11 (c) Each fiscal year, subject to appropriation, the Office of Management and Budget shall
 12 identify County General Funds in the Non-Departmental portion of the County Budget to
 13 provide funding for the Senior Assistance Program.

14 **Sec. 2-115.03. Definitions.**

15 As used in this Division:

16 (a) **County** shall mean Prince George's County, Maryland.

17 (b) **Head of Household** means the person that holds the deed, title or lease on a property,
 18 it is their main residence and they are legally responsible for the rent or mortgage.

19 (c) **Household Income** is identified as all combined gross household income before
 20 deductions. This includes income from all sources including Social Security as well as all other
 21 retirement benefits.

22 (d) **Resident** means a person who is a legal resident of the United States and has been a
 23 County resident for at least one year.

24 (e) **Senior Citizen** means a person who is 65 years of age and older.

25 **Sec. 2-115.04. Eligibility.**

26 To be deemed eligible for the Senior Assistance Program, a person shall meet the following
 27 criteria:

28 (a) Be 65 years of age or older;

29 (b) Have a household income of less than \$35,000 per year;

30 (c) Be a legal United States resident; and

31 (d) Be a resident of Prince George's County, Maryland for at least one year.

1 **Sec. 2-115.05. Disbursement of Funds.**

2 (a) The Office of Finance shall administer the disbursement of funds for the Senior
3 Assistance Program.

4 (b) There will be one check issued per household to the person deemed eligible pursuant to
5 the criteria as set forth pursuant to this Division.

6 **Sec. 2-115.06. Senior Assistance Program Review.**

7 The Department of Family Services and the Office of Management and Budget will
8 evaluate the program after six months of its inception to review and determine the success of the
9 Senior Assistance Program.

10 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
11 calendar days after it becomes law and shall be retroactively effective to July 1, 2006.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2006.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Thomas E. Dernoga
Chairman

ATTEST:

Redis C. Floyd
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Jack B. Johnson
County Executive

KEY:
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.