

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-007-2020

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: 06/11/2020

Action: FAV (A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 11-0 (In Favor: Council Members Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras,).

The Committee convened on June 11, 2020, to discuss this legislation, which establishes a fifteen-member Climate Action Commission to develop a climate action plan for Prince George's County. The Commission would consist of representatives from: Five County agencies (Department of the Environment, Department of Permits Inspections & Enforcement, Department of Public Works & Transportation, Office of Central Services and the Health Department), the Maryland National Capital Park & Planning Commission, Prince George's County Public Schools, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Prince George's County Municipal Association, the University of Maryland, the energy industry (appointed by the County Chamber of Commerce) and three non-profit environmental organizations (appointed by the Council Chair).

The resolution outlines the process for the Commission's activities, beginning with the preparation of a draft plan, an initial update on proceedings (by November 30, 2020), and a final report by June 30, 2021 (when the Commission expires). The discussion included verbal comments in support from citizens and written support and verbal comments by the Sierra Club.

The sponsor offered the following amendments:

- 1) Clarifying language regarding the Commission's purpose (suggested by the Sierra Club)
- 2) Amending the dates for the proceedings update (January 31, 2021) and the final report (September 30, 2021)
- 3) Adding a representative from Bowie State University (increasing Commission membership to 16), and
- 4) Amending the non-profit membership to include social justice organizations as well as environmental organizations

After the discussion, the Committee voted favorably on CR-7-2020 as amended, by a vote of 11-0.