

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

Meeting Date: 3/21/2000

Reference No.: CB-6-2000

Proposer: Estepp

Draft No.: 1

Sponsors: Estepp

Item Title: An Act providing for the partial reimbursement of attorney's fees for prevailing parties represented by attorneys provided by third parties

Drafter: Ralph E. Grutzmacher
Legislative Officer

Resource John D. Timms
Personnel: Legislative Aide

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented: 2/1/2000 **Executive Action:** 3/31/2000 S

Committee Referral: 2/1/2000 PSFM **Effective Date:** 5/16/2000

Committee Action: 1 2/3/2000 HELD

Committee Action: 2 2/17/00 FAV

Date Introduced: 2/29/2000

Public Hearing: 3/21/2000 1:30 P.M.

Council Action: 3/21/2000 ENACTED

Council Votes: DB:A, JE:A, IG:A, TH:A, WM:A, RVR:A, AS:A, PS:A, MW:A

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

PUBLIC SAFETY & FISCAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT Date: 2/17/00

Committee Vote: Favorable, 5-0, (In Favor: Councilmembers Wilson, Estepp, Maloney, Russell and Scott).

This bill will provide for the partial reimbursement of attorney's fees for a prevailing employee represented by a collective bargaining agent or other third party provider of legal services in cases brought before the Personnel Board.

The Chairman of the Personnel Board submitted a letter stating that the current revised schedule for the reimbursement of legal fees and court costs is sufficient.

The Director of the Office of Personnel and Labor Relations submitted comments stating that the County does not currently reimburse a union for legal fees incurred when it provides legal representation for an employee in binding arbitration over a labor contract dispute and clarification of the phrase “third party provider of legal representation.”

The County Executive opposed this legislation.

The legislation was held in Committee on 2/3/00.

There may be a negative fiscal impact on the County related to any legal fees and/or court costs the County may be required to reimburse as a result of enacting CB-6-2000.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

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

Currently, a prevailing employee who is provided legal representation by a collective bargaining agent or other third party provider of legal services may not be reimbursed for legal fees in cases brought before the Personnel Board. The proposed legislation would provide for the reimbursement of attorney’s fees to such persons.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: