

**COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND**  
**2012 Legislative Session**

Bill No. CB-94-2012

Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Franklin

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

Co-Sponsors \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Introduction \_\_\_\_\_

**BILL**

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Convenience Stores and Gas Stations - Public Safety

3 For the purpose of improving public safety by reducing commercial crime; providing definitions  
4 and the scope of the legislation; providing for staffing, cash management, security and notice;  
5 and generally relating to public safety.

6 BY adding:

7 SUBTITLE 5. BUSINESSES AND LICENSES.

8 Sections 5-2617, 5-2618, 5-2619, 5-2620, 5-2621, and

9 5-2622,

10 The Prince George's County Code

11 (2011 Edition).

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,  
13 Maryland, that Sections 5-2617, 5-2618, 5-2619, 5-2620, 5-2621, and 5-2622 of the  
14 Prince George's County Code be and the same are hereby added:

15 **SUBTITLE 5. BUSINESSES AND LICENSES.**

16 **DIVISION 27. CONVENIENCE STORES AND GAS STATIONS.**

17 **Sec. 5-2617. Legislative Intent.**

18 (a) The purpose and intent of this legislation is to improve public safety and reduce commercial  
19 crime by strengthening safety standards at convenience stores and gas stations. This  
20 legislation establishes reasonable and uniform laws to promote the health, safety, and  
21 welfare of the citizens and residents of the County. The provisions of this law are in

1 response to violent crimes taking place in or in close proximity to convenience stores and  
 2 gas stations throughout the County.

3 **Sec. 5-2618. Definitions and Scope of Legislation.**

4 (a) The following words, as used in this Division, shall for the purpose of this Division,  
 5 have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this Section:

6 (1) **Convenience store** shall mean any food or beverage store that is open for  
 7 business from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. that provides retail sales of food, beverages,  
 8 and sundries primarily for home consumption, and may include food or beverage  
 9 preparation. Convenience store does not include a Department or Variety Store  
 10 that provides incidental sales of candy, gum and similar non-refrigerated items at  
 11 a check-out counter, or in a standard vending machine.

12 (2) **Gas Station** shall mean a building or lot having pumps and storage tanks, where  
 13 the primary use is the retail sale of motor vehicle fuels. Vehicle related services  
 14 may be offered incidental to the primary use.

15 (3) **Police Department** shall mean the Prince George's County Police Department.

16 (4) **Police Chief** shall mean the Chief of the Prince George's County Police  
 17 Department.

18 (5) **Police Officer** shall mean a sworn member of the Prince George's County Police  
 19 Department.

20 (b) This legislation applies to convenience stores that are open for business from 12:00  
 21 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

22 **Sec. 5-2619. Staffing.**

23 (a) Convenience stores and gas stations that are open anytime between 12:00 a.m. to 6:00  
 24 a.m. shall have either:

25 (1) Two employees working on the premises at all times; or

26 (2) Only allow window access for patrons between 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

27 **Sec. 5-2620. Cash Management.**

28 (a) As a condition of their use and occupancy permit, convenience stores and gas stations  
 29 cannot keep more than fifty dollars (\$50.00) in any cash register on the premises at all  
 30 times between 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

31 (b) A written cash management policy shall be kept on site that limits cash on hand in the

1 convenience store or gas station from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

2 **Sec. 5-2621. Security Camera System.**

3 (a) Convenience stores and gas stations shall install and maintain a working security  
4 camera surveillance system.

5 (b) The security camera shall be able to retrieve an identifiable image of an offender.

6 (c) The security camera shall have an annual test photo and maintenance log showing  
7 maintenance every four months.

8 **Sec. 5-2622. Notice.**

9 (a) Convenience stores and gas stations shall place notice at their front entrance providing  
10 that there is less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) in the cash register and that the premises is  
11 under surveillance.

12 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby  
13 declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph,  
14 sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of  
15 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining  
16 words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this  
17 Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such  
18 invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, subparagraph, subsection, or section.

19 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)  
20 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE  
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Andrea C. Harrison  
Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Redis C. Floyd  
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rushern L. Baker, III  
County Executive

KEY:  
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.  
Asterisks \*\*\* indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.