

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

1997 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-7-1997

Proposed by Council Member Maloney

Introduced by

Co-Sponsors

Date of Introduction February 4, 1997

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION concerning

County Council Rules of Procedure

For the purpose of amending the County Council Rules of Procedure pertaining to the first reading or presentation of proposed bills and resolutions.

WHEREAS, Section 316 of the Prince George's County Charter provides for the County Council to adopt and publish rules; and

WHEREAS, the County Council Rules of Procedure, as adopted by CR-1-1995 are maintained by the Clerk of the Council; and

WHEREAS, the Rules of Procedure have been revised to amend the procedures for presenting a bill or resolution for consideration by the Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the Rules of Procedure, as adopted by CR-1-1995 be and the same are hereby repealed and readopted with the following amendments:

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

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11. PRESENTATION (FIRST READING).

11.1. Debate on Presentation (First Reading).

[Bills eligible for presentation shall be listed on the Consent Agenda and the full titles shall be printed. Unless a bill is removed from the Consent Agenda, there shall be no debate or discussion on the bill during the time it is before the Council on presentation. If the bill has been removed from the Consent Agenda, the Member presenting the bill may make an explanatory statement as to the purpose of the bill, not to exceed two minutes in length. If a Council Member desires to join in the sponsorship of the bill, the Chairman shall thereupon so instruct the Clerk.]

Any Member may present a bill or resolution for Council consideration on any day that the County is open for business by transmitting the item and the Agenda Item Summary to the Chairman/Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council on forms provided for that purpose. Upon receipt, the Chairman/Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council shall assign a number and refer the item to the appropriate standing committee for consideration. Not later than the next legislative day, the Chairman/Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council shall transmit a list of each bill or resolution presented since the last legislative day, together with their titles and an indication of the committee to which the item had been referred. At each Legislative Session, the Chairman/Council Administrator/Clerk of the Council shall read aloud each bill or resolution by the full title and state to which committee the item had been referred.

11.2. Committee Referrals.

(a) By the adoption of these rules, the Council agrees to observe the established practice of "presenting" a bill prior to introduction, thereby permitting, before Council Public Hearing Notices are advertised, in-depth examination and possible refinements after review of the legislation's fiscal effects and other pertinent information supplied by interested persons. The Council agrees that no bill shall be presented (or introduced, if presentation is bypassed) after

September 30 of each year, except: (1) emergency bills; (2) Charter amendments; (3) bills appropriating funds or levying a tax; (4) bills authorizing the sale of bonds, creating a project in the Capital Improvements Program, or transferring appropriations between projects in the Capital Budget; and (5) bills approving labor agreements, and attendant legislation necessary to implement the provisions of such agreements. Upon presentation of each bill, it shall be referred by the Chairman to the appropriate committee. The bill shall be returned by the committee to the Council for introduction within thirty (30) working days unless deferred for an additional period of thirty (30) working days, or unless held in committee as set forth below. Nothing herein shall preclude a committee's review of a bill prior to presentation or a resolution prior to introduction. The committee may take the following actions:

- (1) Report out with favorable recommendation;
- (2) Report out with unfavorable recommendation;
- (3) Report out with no recommendation;
- (4) Report out with favorable recommendation, as amended;
- (5) Hold in committee upon request of the proposer(s) and presenter(s);
- (6) Hold in committee for further study; or
- (7) Hold in committee indefinitely;

(b) Upon introduction, each resolution shall be referred by the Chairman to the appropriate committee unless the matter has already been considered by committee. A resolution may be held in committee upon the request of the proposer(s).

(c) [Any Member may present a bill or introduce a resolution at any Council Business or Legislative Session, provided that an original copy of said bill or resolution has been filed with the Council Administrator fourteen (14) calendar days prior to the session.

(d)] Any Member may introduce a bill on any Legislative Session day. If a bill is introduced without presentation, the Chairman may refer the bill to committee.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of the Council Rules of Procedure, as amended by this Resolution, together with any subsequent amendments, shall be marked,

identified, and maintained by the Clerk of the Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the amendment to the Rules of Procedure adopted by this Resolution shall be effective on and after the date of the adoption of this Resolution.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 1997.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY:

Dorothy F. Bailey
Chair

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council