

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2022 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-068-2022

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee

Date: 09/22/2022

Action: FAV(A)

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 5-0 (In favor: Council Members Burroughs, Franklin, Ivey, Streeter and Turner)

The Prince George's County Council's Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee convened on September 22, 2022 to consider CR-68-2022. CR-068-2022 would establish the intention of the Prince George's County in developing an equity policy framework to promote racial equity and social justice throughout the County Government. The Resolution exalts the County's diversity and points to the need to decrease the disparities that exist among protected categories in the areas of education, employment, health, and housing as a result of "institutional and individual biases that work to undermine opportunities for vital members of the community." These disparities, according to the Resolution, were exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Resolution highlights several organizations which worked to decrease disparities in COVID19 infection and vaccination rates. These organizations include Mary's Center², a community health center in the Washington, DC metro area; CASA (de Maryland)³, a Latino and immigration advocacy-and-assistance organization; and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity (GARE)⁴, a national network of government working to achieve racial equity and advance opportunities for all.

The Resolution provides data to show racial and ethnic inequalities from an Urban Institute Report entitled "Racial Inequities in Prince George's County: 2011-15" ⁵ and published in 2017. Draft 2 of the resolution changes the reporting date and clarifies CASA De Maryland and requires the report to be sent to the House and Senate Delegations and various caucuses.

The Office of Law reports CR-68-2022 to be in proper legislative form with no impediments to its adoption.

The Policy Group reports that CR-68-2022 should not have a measurable direct fiscal impact. After discussion the Government and Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee reported CR-68-2022 Draft 2 out favorably 5-0.