

# PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

## COMMITTEE REPORT

2026 Legislative Session

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**Reference No.:** CB-043-2026

**Draft No.:** 2

**Committee:** COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

**Date:** 6/02/2026

**Action:** FAVORABLE  
WITH  
AMENDMENTS

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**REPORT:** Committee Vote: Favorable with Amendments, 8-0-1 (In favor: Chair Oriadha, Council Members Blegay, Dernoga, Fisher, Ivey, and Olson)

The Prince George's County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole (COW) on May 26, 2026, and June 2, 2026, to consider CB-043-2026. As presented on Tuesday, May 12, 2026, Draft-1 of the bill is for the purpose of strengthening enforcement of housing and property standards on vacant properties; providing for administrative citations for unmaintained vacant properties; increasing the amounts of fines for repeat violations; and generally relating to vacant property.

Ms. Miller-Whye, Legislative Budget & Policy Analyst, provided a policy and fiscal analysis of the bill. She explained that as of September 11, 2025, there were 452 unmaintained vacant properties listed in the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement (DPIE) registry with an unresolved status.

In comparison, in Montgomery County, Maryland, there is a similar law for vacant and unmaintained property violations, with civil fines of \$500.00 for the initial violation and \$750.00 for repeat violations under the County's civil fines schedule. Additionally, each day a violation continues may constitute a separate offense and may result in property tax liens.

Enactment of CB-043-2026 will have a direct fiscal impact on the County. It imposes a progressive fine system that may increase revenues and improve property maintenance compliance by holding local property owners more accountable. The bill may also expand the County's Administrative Hearing Unit's current operations.

The bill sponsor, Chair Oriadha, explained that the County Council has been addressing concerns about vacant and blighted properties in Prince George's County. Previously enacted legislation, CB-080-2023(DR-2), established the Vacant Property Registry Program for unmaintained vacant residential, commercial, and industrial buildings in the County. The County Council is working to increase fines, penalties, and standards for these properties. There have been discussions on moving enforcement from DPIE to the Office of Homeland Security (OHS), so some amendments are needed to the bill.

Ms. Angel, the County Executive's Liaison to the County Council, explained that the County Executive is reviewing the responsibilities of DPIE and OHS and requested additional time for potential amendments.

On motion of Chair Oriadha, seconded by Vice Chair Olson, the Council COW voted 9-0 to hold the bill for one week.

On Tuesday, June 2, 2026, the County Council COW met again to discuss CB-043-2026. Mr. Josh Hamlin, Legislative Attorney, provided an overview of the amendments. The amendments are as follows:

On page 2, remove the brackets from around the word “building.” The change was a technical amendment.

On lines 23 through 24, delete "Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement" and replace it with "Office of Homeland Security, Code Compliance." This change complies with the County Executive’s recommended agency responsibility realignments.

Ms. Angel noted that the County Executive supports CB-043-2026 with amendments.

On motion of Chair Oriadha, seconded by Vice Chair Olson, the Committee of the Whole voted 6-0 on amendments to the bill.

Next, on motion of Chair Oriadha, seconded by Vice Chair Olson, the Committee of the Whole voted 6-0 favorably on CB-043-2026 as amended.