

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2016 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-66-2016

Draft No.: 1

Committee: TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

Date: October 6, 2016

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 4-0 (In favor: Council Members Patterson, Turner, Davis and Taveras)

The Legislative Officer provided a summary of the bill and referral comments that were received. CR-66-2016 requires the County to prepare a plan for implementing a Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Program that facilitates energy improvements and requires repayment through a surcharge on the owner's property tax bill.

The purpose of the program is to provide loans to residential property owners and commercial property owners to finance energy efficiency projects and renewable energy projects. Commercial property owners in the County want to implement energy efficient and renewable energy projects but are hindered by the upfront costs and lack of low cost long-term financing.

The District of Columbia and Montgomery County have established Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy ("PACE") programs. The proposed legislation will require the County to prepare a plan for implementing a Commercial PACE Program which analyzes certain factors prior to establishing a Commercial PACE Program and submit the plan to the County Council by January 1, 2018.

The Office of Law determined that CR-66-2016 was in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its enactment.

The Office of Audits and Investigation indicated there will not be any negative fiscal impact on the County as a result of enactment CR-66-2016.