

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2014 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-91-2014
Draft No.: 1
Committee: COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Date: 10/07/2014
Action: FAV

REPORT:

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Committee Vote: Favorable, 9-0 (In favor: Council Members Franklin, Campos, Davis, Harrison, Lehman, Olson, Patterson, Turner and Toles)

Council staff summarized the purpose of the resolution. CR-91-2014 was transmitted by the County Executive for the Council's consideration. The legislation endorses the proposed expansion of the Prince George's County Enterprise Zone and the designation and redesignation of the Focus Area in the Enterprise Zone. This existing designation of the Prince George's County Enterprise Zone Focus Area will expire on December 15, 2014, unless an application for redesignation is approved by the Secretary of Business and Economic Development.

The Enterprise Zone program provides businesses and property owner's tax incentives to encourage private investment within the Zone to increase private employment opportunities, increase capital investment and increase the tax base of the political subdivisions within the area where the Zone is located and surrounding areas. The Focus Areas are locations within the Enterprise Zone that offer even more valuable tax credit incentives for businesses. This program is one of a relatively small number of incentives the County offers to new and expanding businesses. One advantage to the County of this incentive is that the State reimburses the County for half of the real property tax the County foregoes, and provides all of the Income Tax credit for new employment.

Ebony Stocks, representing the Prince George's Economic Development Corporation, was present to provide background information and respond to Council Members' questions.

The Committee voted favorable on the legislation as drafted.