

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2021 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-102-2021

Draft No.: 1

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: 10/14/2021

Action: Favorable

REPORT: Favorable as amended, 8-0: Council Members Hawkins, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Taveras and Turner. Absent: Streeter.

The Prince George's County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on Thursday, October 14, 2021, to consider CB-102-2021. CB-102-2021 is an act concerning COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for Child Care Facility and Day Care Center Staff that creates a requirement for COVID-19 vaccinations of all staff. A new provision will be added to Subtitle 5. Division 3. requiring that all staff members are fully vaccinated for the COVID-19 virus and provide evidence of vaccination.

During the discussion, Council Member Ivey, the sponsor, noted that the bill is presented at the request of parents and is also in force in other jurisdictions around the region.

Council Members stated that they believe the Council has the authority to mandate vaccines similar to how the County mandates masks.

Ms. Terry Bell, Council Liaison, Office of the County Executive, expressed the County Executive's support.

The Office of Law requested additional time to review the current state of Federal, State, and Local law before providing a legal opinion on the requirement of vaccinations for childcare staff.

The Policy Analysis and Fiscal Note states that enacting CB-102-2021 is not likely to have an adverse fiscal impact on the County. Any enforcement would likely not entail a large amount of staff time. Enactment of CB-102-2021 may have a positive indirect fiscal impact to the extent that it reduces the spread and severity of the COVID-19 virus in the County and thereby reduces residents' need for associated County services.

After Council Members discussion relative to the impact of the bill, it was determined that moving CB 105-2021 out of committee allowed time for legal analysis without jeopardizing the prospects of the bill's enactment, and the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Committee of the Whole, voted CB-102-2021 out favorably, 10-0.