

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2001 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-103-2001

Chapter No. 74

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Shapiro

Introduced by Council Member Shapiro

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction October 23, 2001

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Property Standards and Maintenance

3 For the purpose of requiring the owners of non-residential property to maintain the structures and
4 natural features free of graffiti.

5 BY repealing and reenacting with amendments:

6 SUBTITLE 13. HOUSING AND PROPERTY STANDARDS.
7 Sections 13-231, 13-233, and 13-240,
8 The Prince George's County Code
9 (1999 Edition, 2000 Supplement).

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
11 Maryland, that Sections 13-231, 13-233, and 13-240 of the Prince George's County Code be and
12 the same are hereby repealed and reenacted with the following amendments:

13 **SUBTITLE 13. HOUSING AND PROPERTY STANDARDS.**

14 **DIVISION 7. PROPERTY STANDARDS AND MAINTENANCE.**

15 **Sec. 13-231. Definitions.**

16 (a) The following words and phrases shall have the meanings indicated:

17 * * * * *

18 (2) **Garbage** shall mean the animal and vegetable waste resulting from the handling,
19 preparation, cooking, or consumption of food.

20 (2.1) **Graffiti** shall mean any inscription, drawing, painting, or other visual defacing
21 that is written, marked, etched, scratched, painted, or engraved on or otherwise affixed to any

1 surface of a building, structure, roadway, or natural feature that was not authorized by the prior
2 consent of the owner.

3 (3) **Maintenance** shall mean acts of repair or other acts to prevent a decline in the
4 conditions of grounds, structures, and equipment such that the condition does not fall below the
5 standards established by this Division and other applicable statutes, codes, and ordinances.

6 * * * * *

7 **Sec. 13-233. Maintenance requirements.**

8 All improved and unimproved property shall be maintained in a clean, safe, secure, and
9 sanitary condition, free of graffiti, and in conformance with this Division so as not to create a
10 public nuisance or adversely affect the public health, safety, or welfare.

11 **Sec. 13-240. Exterior surfaces, walls, and foundations of structures.**

12 (a) Every exterior surface, wall, and foundation shall be free of holes, breaks, loose or
13 rotting boards, timbers, or other materials, and any conditions which might admit rain or
14 dampness to the interior portions of the walls. All exterior surface materials, including wood,
15 composition, cinder block, or metal siding, shall be maintained in a weather-proof condition,
16 properly surface-coated, and free of graffiti.

17 (b) It shall be unlawful for a person to apply graffiti to any natural or artificial surface on
18 publicly-owned property or to any natural or artificial surface of privately-owned property
19 without the prior authorization and consent of the owner of the property.

20 (c) The owner of property upon which graffiti has been applied shall remove the graffiti
21 within ten calendar days after it was applied. If the owner fails to remove the graffiti, the
22 Director may issue a notice of violation in accordance with Section 13-244. If the owner fails to
23 remove the graffiti within 7 calendar days after receipt of a notice of violation and has not filed
24 an appeal of the violation, the Director shall cause the graffiti to be removed. The owner shall
25 pay the actual costs of removal to the County within thirty days after receipt of an itemized
26 invoice from the County.

1 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
2 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 19th day of November, 2001.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Ronald V. Russell
Chairman

ATTEST:

Joyce T. Sweeney
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: _____ BY: _____
Wayne K. Curry
County Executive

KEY:
Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.
Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.