

**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY**

Meeting Date: 3/10/98

Reference No.: CB-4-1998

Proposer: County Executive

Draft No.: 2

Sponsors: Wilson, Del Giudice

Item Title: An Act providing certain monetary penalties for the enforcement of employment discrimination laws and public accommodations discrimination laws and clarifying language regarding the Human Relations Commission enforcement procedures

Drafter: Kathleen Canning
Office of Law

Resource Personnel: Kathleen Canning
Office of Law

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented:	1/6/98	Executive Action: 3/26/98	S
Committee Referral:	1/6/98	PSFM	Effective Date: 5/11/98
Committee Action:	2/5/98	FAV(A)	
Date Introduced:	2/10/98		
Pub. Hearing Date:	3/10/98	1:30 P.M.	

Council Action: 3/10/98 ENACTED

Council Votes: RVR:A, DB:-, SD:A, JE:A, IG:-, TH:A, WM:A, AS:-, MW:-

Pass/Fail: P

Remarks: _____

PUBLIC SAFETY AND FISCAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT Date: 2/5/98

Committee Vote: Favorable as amended, 5-0 (In favor: Council Members Estepp, Bailey, Hendershot, Scott and Wilson).

This bill will provide clarifying language by deleting the word "panel" regarding the Human Relations Commission enforcement procedures and allow the Commission to impose monetary penalties of up to \$5,000 in addition to the compensatory damages it can already assess. Currently, the County cannot impose such penalties and these penalties would only be applicable in employment and public accommodations discrimination cases, pursuant to State law. The Director

of the Human Relations Commission stated that this bill is needed as a deterrent particularly when the remedy to make the complainant whole does not require monetary consideration and where the respondents show a callous disregard for the law.

Proposed amendment:

On page 2, line 20, delete "of" and insert "up to"

There may be some positive fiscal impact on the County related to any revenue generated from the imposition of civil fines. An estimate of the amount of revenue cannot be determined at this time.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT
(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)**

For the purpose of providing certain monetary penalties for the enforcement of employment discrimination laws and public accommodations discrimination laws and clarifying language regarding the Human Relations Commission enforcement procedures.

CODE INDEX TOPICS: