

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY

Budget & Policy Analysis Division

October 9, 2025

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE

TO: Colette R. Gresham, Esq.

Acting Council Administrator

Karen T. Zavakos, Esq.

Acting Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Lavinia Baxter

Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

FROM: David Williams **\(\mathcal{U}** \).

Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement

CR-111-2025 Correctional Facilities Safety Task Force

CR-111-2025 (Proposed and introduced by: Councilmember Hawkins)

Assigned to the Health, Human Services, and Public Safety Committee

A RESOLUTION CONCERNING PRINCE GEORGE'S CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

SAFETY TASK FORCE for the purpose of establishing a task force to gather information, evaluate, and make recommendations for improving safety, especially for inmates and employees, within the adult detention center of the Prince George's County Department of Corrections, also known as the Prince George's County Jail.

Fiscal Summary

Direct Impact:

Expenditures: The County can anticipate minor expenditures.

Revenues: None.

Indirect Impact:

Potentially positive.

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Legislative Summary:

CR-111-2025¹, proposed and sponsored by Councilmember Hawkins, was introduced on October 7, 2025, and will be referred to the Health, Human Services, and Public Safety (HHSPS) Committee. The resolution will establish the Prince George's Correctional Facilities Safety Task Force. This task force will be responsible for reviewing safety conditions in the Prince George's County jail. This review process includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Reviewing and analyzing data
- Conducting surveys and interviews with current and former inmates, employees, and visitors to Prince George's County jail
- Observing and evaluating the safety features and monitoring coverage of the County jail
- Observing, comparing, and considering the safety practices and features of other facilities
- Obtaining public input and making recommendations

This task force will be staffed with a comprehensive cadre of personnel appointed by the County Executive and the County Council. This task force will have the full cooperation of every County agency, enforced by the County Auditor. Additionally, this task force shall provide its report no later than one year following the adoption of this resolution; this deadline may be extended 180 days with a majority vote of the task force.

Membership Appointments (County Executive)

- Vice Chair of the task force, non-County employee
- One member from the Prince George's County Returning Citizens Affairs Division
- One member of an organization that works with pre and/or post-release of formerly incarcerated groups in Prince George's County

Membership Appointments (Chair of the County Council)

- Chair of the task force, non-County employee
- Two members who are returning citizens
- One member of an organization that works with pre and/or post-release of formerly incarcerated populations in Prince George's County
- Four members of who are recommended by the Prince George's County Correctional Officer's Association

¹ Prince George's County- <u>CR-111-2025</u>

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• One ex officio/ non-voting member of the County Council

Expiration

This task force is currently set to expire 60 days after the issuance of its final written report, and this resolution will expire.

Current Law/Background:

The need for this resolution has arisen out of a plethora of concerns stemming from the County's Department of Corrections. There are ongoing concerns of inmate-to-inmate violence, inmate-to-personnel violence, and overall degradation of service delivery of carceral services within the County.

Resource Personnel:

• Jamel Franklin, Chief of Staff

Discussion/Policy Analysis:

The Prince George's County correctional system has been negatively impacted by outdated capital assets, overcrowding, and consistent staffing shortages. These realities have culminated in a substandard living environment for inmates, poor working conditions for corrections personnel, and increased violence between inmates and between inmates and corrections personnel. Challenges within the County's Department of Corrections cause frequent turnover, overreliance on mandatory overtime, and generally degrade the mental health of both staff and inmates. This resolution creates a comprehensive task force composed of former inmates, elected officials, and subject matter experts to ameliorate these challenges.²

Fiscal Impact:

• Direct Impact

Adoption of CR-111-2025 will not have a significant adverse fiscal impact on the County. This task force will require minor expenditures for operations and administration.

• Indirect Impact

² Prince George's County- <u>Department of Corrections Budget Report</u>

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Adoption of CR-111-2025 may have a positive indirect impact if the findings address the key challenges being faced by the County's Department of Corrections.

• Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget

Yes.

Effective Date of Proposed Legislation:

The proposed Resolution shall be effective on the date of adoption.

If you require additional information or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please call or email me.