

Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

Meeting Date: 9/9/2015
Reference No.: CB-046-2015
Draft No.: 1
Proposer(s): County Executive
Sponsor(s): Franklin, Toles, Lehman, Harrison, Davis, Taveras
Item Title: An Act for the purpose of amending the Prince George's County Fire Safety Code to adopt the standards of the National Fire Protection Association regarding increasing administrative fees for apartment buildings related to fire safety

Drafter: Mary Blocker, Fire/EMS Department
Resource Personnel: Benjamin Barksdale, Fire/EMS Department

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

Date Presented:	7/7/2015	Executive Action:	9/22/2015 S
Committee Referral:	7/7/2015 - PSFM	Effective Date:	11/9/2015

Committee Action: 7/16/2015 - FAV

Date Introduced: 7/21/2015
Public Hearing: 9/9/2015 - 1:30 AM

Council Action (1) 9/9/2015 - ENACTED
Council Votes: DLD:A, MRF:A, DG:A, AH:A, ML:A, OP:A, DT:A, KT:A, TT:A
Pass/Fail: P
Remarks:

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

11-163

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Safety and Fiscal Management **Date 7/16/2015**
REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable, 5-0 (In favor: Council Members Patterson, Harrison, Lehman, Taveras, and Turner)

CB-46-2015 seeks to amend the Prince George's County Fire Safety Code by changing the method for calculations of fire inspection fees for apartment buildings. The fee will change from \$120.00 per building and \$2.50 per apartment inspected, to an hourly rate of \$125.00. The fee only applies to Office of the Fire Marshall personnel who conduct fire inspections and will cover travel, report writing, research and witnessing tests.

The Office of Audits and Investigations finds that the enactment of CB-46-2015 should not have an adverse fiscal impact on the County. FIRE/EMS personnel estimate that the fees collected will cover the cost of personnel conducting the inspections as well as any needed tools, supplies and equipment.

The Office of Law has reviewed this legislation and finds it to be in proper legislative form with no legal

impediments to its enactment.

The Apartment and Building Association (AOBA) supports the proposed bill and further pointed out that Fire inspections are also charged on an hourly basis in our surrounding jurisdictions.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This legislation will increase the administrative fees for apartment buildings. The legislation amends the Prince George's County Fire Safety Code to change the method for calculating fire inspection fees from \$120.00 per building and \$2.50 per apartment inspected, to an hourly charge of \$125.00. The hourly fee charges would apply to personnel from the Office of the Fire Marshal conducting inspections. The fees would not apply to local fire station personnel that may attend inspections. The assessed fees would include travel, report writing, re-inspection, research and witnessing tests. Additionally, the assessed fees must be paid within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the invoice.

CODE INDEX TOPICS:

INCLUSION FILES:
