



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3820

Chairman

Mel Franklin

Councilman District 9

FEB 10 2015

The Hon. Douglas J.J. Peters, Chair
Prince George's County Senate Delegation
James Senate Office Building, Room 120
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

The Hon. Jay Walker, Chair
Prince George's County House Delegation
Lowe House Office Building, Room 207E
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

Re: **Prince George's County Delegation Bill Position**

Dear Senator Peters & Delegate Walker:

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the Prince George's County Council, to transmit our position on pending proposed State legislation for the 2015 General Assembly Session. The Council met on February 3, 2015. The enclosed report reflects our position on General Assembly bills as they are currently drafted.

The Council appreciates the opportunity to work together with you and your colleagues to address issues important to our citizens and the operation of Prince George's County. Should you have any questions or need additional information please do not hesitate to contact me. For your convenience my office phone number is (301) 952-3820. Thanks again, for favorable consideration of the Council's position.

Sincerely,



Mel Franklin
Chair

Attachments

cc: Hon. Rushern L. Baker, III, County Executive
Ms. Lisa L. Jackson, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs

14741 Governor Oden Bowie Drive
County Administration Building – Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772
CouncilDistrict9@co.pg.md.us – Fax: (301) 952-5275

RULES & GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE REPORT

The Prince George's County Council met on February 3, 2015 with the following Members present:

Council Member Mel Franklin, Chair
Council Member Derrick L. Davis, Vice Chair
Council Member Todd M. Turner
Council Member Andrea C. Harrison
Council Member Mary A. Lehman
Council Member Deni Taveras
Council Member Obie Patterson
Council Member Dannielle M. Glaros
Council Member Karen R. Toles

The Council voted for the following positions on these respective bills:



BILL CONSIDERATION

Law Enforcement

1. **PG 301-15** Prince George's County – Raffles – Charitable Foundations and Repeal of Monetary Cap – **SUPPORT w/AMENDMENT**
2. **PG 304-15** Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Penalties **SUPPORT w/AMENDMENT**

County Affairs

3. **PG 404-15** Prince George's County – Watershed Protection and Restoration Program – Report on County Funding Plan – **SUPPORT w/AMENDMENT**



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700
County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

PG 301-15
(Del. Howard)

Prince George's County – Raffles – Charitable Foundations
and Repeal of Monetary Cap

POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

This bill seeks to authorize a charitable foundation affiliated with a professional football team in the County to conduct a raffle, require permits from a County agency, and repeal a cap on award prizes in money or in merchandise. Under current law in Prince George's County, a qualified organization may hold a raffle. A qualified organization conducting a raffle may award prizes of up to \$5,000 or merchandise in any amount or the merchandise cash equivalent. A qualified organization is a group of citizens of the county or a company, association, or corporation that is organized in good faith in the county to promote the purposes of a volunteer fire department or of a charitable, benevolent, patriotic, fraternal, educational, religious, or civic object. Additionally, a qualified organization may hold a benefit performance, which may include (among other nongaming activities, such as a lecture) a carnival, a card party, a bingo party, or a contest.

The Prince George's County Council supports the amendments that would broaden the scope of the bill to include other organizations. Therefore, the County Council recommended a position of **SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT** on **PG 301-15** only with the proposed amendments and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: Colette R. Gresham, Legislative Officer
February 3, 2015



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700
County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

PG 304-15
(Del. Vaughn)

Prince George's County – Alcoholic Beverages – Penalties

POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

This bill seeks to amend Sec. 16-507(r) of Article 2B – Alcoholic Beverages of the Annotated Code of Maryland. The bill will alter the penalties that the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners may impose for a violation that is the cause for suspension or revocation of a license under certain alcoholic beverages laws; authorizing the imposition of a certain penalty for a subsequent offense; and generally relating to penalties for alcoholic beverages in Prince George's County. Currently the law allows the Prince George's County Board of License Commissioners to impose a fine not exceeding \$12,500. The bill as it is currently presented, allows the Board of License Commissioners to, for a first offense, impose a fine of not more than \$1,000; and for a second or subsequent offense, impose a fine of not more than \$5,000.

The Prince George's County Council supports the tiered approach to imposing fines as is outlined in the bill, but would request that the penalty amounts take into consideration that the levying of fines is used to deter undesirable behaviors and discourage repeat offenses. There is concern that the amounts presented in the bill might not adequately serve this purpose. The County Council encourages an increase in the fine amounts, as well as an automatic suspension for any license holder committing a third violation within a 12-month period.

Therefore, the County Council recommended a position of SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT on **PG 304-15** only with the proposed amendments and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: Jennifer Jenkins, General Assembly Coordinator
February 3, 2015



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700
County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

PG 404-15
(Del. Walker)

Prince George's County – Watershed Protection and
Restoration Program – Report on County Funding Plan

POSITION: SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT

This bill requires the Prince George's County Department of Environmental Resources to prepare a report on the county funding plan, including specified information, for the county Watershed Protection and Restoration Program. The report must be submitted to the Prince George's County Delegation by October 1, 2014. Chapter 151 of 2012 requires a county or municipal corporation that is subject to a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase I municipal separate storm sewer system permit (which includes Prince George's County) to adopt and implement, by July 1, 2013, local laws or ordinances that establish an annual storm water remediation fee and a local watershed protection and restoration fund.

The Prince George's County Council supports amendments that would also require a report be submitted to the Council and a technical amendment to change the Department of Environmental Resources to the Department of Environment.

Therefore, the County Council recommended a position of SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENT on **PG 404-15** only with the proposed amendments and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of its position.

Prepared by: Colette R. Gresham, Legislative Officer
February 3, 2015