PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2022 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-027-2022

Draft No.:

Committee: Education & Workforce Development

Date: May 16, 2022

Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable, 3-0 (In favor: Council Members Ivey, Burroughs, and Medlock)

CB-27-2022 proposed by Council Member Burroughs was presented and referred to the Committee on April 26, 2022. CB-027-2022 would amend the Code to expand the publication requirements for the Wage Determination Board for prevailing wage rates.

The Current Code provision requires that the Board give notice by mail to any labor organizations that request the information. CB-27-2022 would require the Board to publish the schedules of prevailing hourly wage rates in newspapers of record, the Board's landing page of its official website, and by first class mail or electronic mail to any labor organization requesting the information.

The Legislative Officer indicated that CB-27-2022 addresses the notice provisions, allowing for prevailing hourly rate of wages to be posted on the Board's official page of their website and not just by mailing first class or electronically. The new technology will allow for rapid dissemination of information. This is the Legislative Officer's understanding of the purpose for the change in CB-27-2022.

The sponsor indicated that CB-27-2022 include a technical amendment to improve transparency for public notice on proposed wage determination. The sponsor's office has received complaints of not being able to find public notices for prevailing wage rate in online versions of newspapers of public record and often are not listed on the same page. This may cause a delay for employees and or employers to file for redetermination since there a 10-day notice to request to file for redetermination.

The Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement indicates that requiring the Wage Determination Board make public without request, all determinations of prevailing wages in the County would increase transparency and accountability. Enactment of CB-27-2022 would likely result in a small adverse fiscal impact related to the cost of publishing in newspapers of record which would be offset by savings realized from sending all determinations of prevailing wage rates via email rather than postal system.

Ms. Terry Bell, Council Liaison, indicated the County Executive's support of CB-27-2022 and Mr. Glenn Moorehead, Office of Central Services, was available to answer questions.

Ms. Vicky Leonard, Director of Legislative Affairs Laborers International Union of North America, spoke in support of CB-27-2022 since it will facilitate the process in obtaining access to the prevailing wage determination.

The Committee voted favorable 3-0 on CB-27-2022.