

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2022 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-38-2022

Draft No.: 2

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: May 31, 2022

Action: FAV/A

REPORT: Favorable with Amendments 10-0: Council Members Hawkins, Burroughs, Dernoga, Glaros, Harrison, Ivey, Medlock, Streeter, Turner, and Taveras. Absent: Franklin.

The Prince George's County Council convened as the Committee of the Whole on May 31, 2022, to consider CB-38-2022 (DR-2).

CB-38-2022 (DR-2) is a Charter amendment bill, recommended by the Charter Review Commission, that amends several sections of the Charter pertaining to the use of gender-neutral language in the Charter.

The purpose of the bill is to change the text of the Charter from gender specific to gender neutral. There are ninety-seven references to "He" in the Charter. Upon recommendation of CM Glaros, DR-2 will reference "they", "them", "the" and "their". Changes were also made to "Councilman", "Chairman", and "Councilmanic district".

The Office of Law offered two amendments to the bill.
These are:

1. Pg. 3, Line 14 – add the language "or her" after "him" --- him or her
2. Pg. 15, line 11 – strike "word" and replace with term" –
(j) The word "officer" shall include the word "council[man] member."

A copy of this Act shall be transmitted to the County Executive for publication and that a copy also be transmitted to the Prince George's County Board of Elections for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters of this County at the 2022 General Election pursuant to Section 1105 of the Charter. The question of adoption of the proposed Charter Amendment shall be submitted to the voters of the County at the General Election occurring on November 8, 2022.

The Office of Law reports CB-038-2022 (DR-2) to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its adoption.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council sitting as the Committee of the Whole, reported CB-038-2022 (DR-2) out favorably with amendments, 10-0.