

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2024 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CB-03-2024

Draft No.: 2

Committee: GOFP

Date: March 14, 2024

Action: FAV (A)

REPORT: Committee Vote: Favorable with amendments 5-0 (Council Members Watson, Harrison, Dernoga, Franklin, Oriadha)

The Prince George's County Council's Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee convened on February 22, 2024, and again on March 14th, to consider CB-003-2024 an act concerning mandatory lactation rooms in County Buildings.

This legislation is designed to respond to the need for lactation rooms in County buildings. Lactation Rooms are defined as private and hygienic places, other than a bathroom, where a nursing mother may express breastmilk and/or breastfeed. During the first committee work session on February 22nd, concerns were expressed about the lack of information needed to determine the potential fiscal impact.

Central Services Director Jonathan R. Butler described what is involved in creating an assessment and the fiscal impact. A bid will need to be solicited to assess close to 100 county-owned buildings. The assessment is projected to take six to nine months. Eight months was accepted as the assessment deadline by the sponsor, Council Member Oriadha. The requirement to fund temporary portable pod lactation rooms was delayed until after an assessment is complete. The fiscal impact is mitigated by restricting the legislation to county-owned buildings.

Council legislative staff reviewed the amendments from draft 1 to draft 2 and amended the requirements of what must be included in the rooms. If a lactation room is not feasible, portable rooms are now an option. The county must prioritize 10 buildings if portable rooms are not available. During the meeting, the sponsor agreed to allow the 10 portable lactation room locations to be determined at the conclusion of the eight-month assessment period.

The Office of Law has reviewed the above-referenced bill as it was presented on February 6, 2024, and finds it to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to enactment.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council's Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee reported CB-03-2024 out favorably as amended 5-0.