

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2024 Legislative Session

Bill No. CB-011-2024

Chapter No. 30

Proposed and Presented by Council Member Oriadha

Introduced by Council Members Oriadha, Blegay and Olson

Co-Sponsors _____

Date of Introduction June 18, 2024

BILL

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Prince George's County Settlement Transparency

3 For the purpose of promoting transparency with respect to settlement agreements for actions
4 involving Prince George's County Government or its employees.

5 BY adding:

6 SUBTITLE 10. FINANCE AND TAXATION.

7 Section 10-181.04,

8 The Prince George's County Code

9 (2023 Edition).

10 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED by the County Council of Prince George's County,
11 Maryland, that Section 10-181.04 of the Prince George's County Code be and the same is hereby
12 added:

13 SUBTITLE 10. FINANCE AND TAXATION.

14 DIVISION 5. SELF-INSURANCE FUND.

15 **Sec. 10-181.04. Settlement of claims by County; annual reports required.**

16 (a) **Definitions.** In this Section, the following terms shall have the following meanings
17 indicated:

18 (1) **Civil Rights claim** means an assertion by a claimant that the County or County
19 employee injured the claimant by a violation of federal, state, or local civil rights statute.

20 (2) **Party** means a person who settles a claim or a person who allegedly committed the
21 misconduct.

1 (3) **Self-Insurance Fund** means insurance coverage, including a legal defense,
2 provided to the County and its officials, employees, and agents.

3 (4) **Self-Insurance Fund Lawsuit** means a claim or legal proceeding that is covered
4 under the Self Insurance Fund that alleges a violation of:

5 (A) federal or state constitutional rights;

6 (B) civil rights claims; or

7 (C) common law tort claims.

8 (b) By October 1 of each year, the County Attorney shall submit to the County Executive
9 and the County Council, and shall publish on the County website, a written report that
10 summarizes the settlement of each Self-Insurance Fund Lawsuit or other lawsuit alleging
11 employment discrimination during the prior fiscal year.

12 (c) For each settlement in a lawsuit alleging violation of federal or state constitutional
13 rights, civil rights claims, employment discrimination or intentional torts, the report shall
14 identify:

15 (1) the claimant or claimants; and

16 (2) the dollar amount, or other consideration, under the settlement; and

17 (3) the nature of the claim; and

18 (4) the County departments or offices involved in the claim; and

19 (5) demographic information voluntarily provided by the parties; and

20 (6) the applicable legal authority or reason if any information relating to the settlement
21 is excluded because disclosure may be in violation of law.

22 (d) The County shall not agree to a non-disclosure in a settlement agreement that would
23 prevent public disclosure of the settlement agreement. This subsection does not apply to
24 information that is prohibited from disclosure under law.

25 (e) The County Attorney shall, at the conclusion of a settlement agreement, provide a
26 demographic sheet for parties to voluntarily disclose demographic information. The demographic
27 sheet shall, at a minimum, collect the following data:

28 (1) race;

29 (2) ethnicity;

30 (3) gender identity;

31 (4) age;

- 1 (5) sexual orientation;
- 2 (6) religion; and
- 3 (7) any other demographic information voluntarily provided by the parties.

4 (f) A party of a settlement agreement may choose to opt out and decline providing
 5 demographic information by signing an attestation statement provided by the County Attorney.

6 * * * * * * * *

7 SECTION 2. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the provisions of this Act are hereby
 8 declared to be severable; and, in the event that any section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph,
 9 sentence, clause, phrase, or word of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional by a court of
 10 competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not affect the remaining
 11 words, phrases, clauses, sentences, subparagraphs, paragraphs, subsections, or sections of this
 12 Act, since the same would have been enacted without the incorporation in this Act of any such
 13 invalid or unconstitutional word, phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph, subparagraph, subsection,
 14 or section.

15 SECTION 3. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that this Act shall take effect forty-five (45)
 16 calendar days after it becomes law.

Adopted this 16th day of July, 2024.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: Jolene Ivey
Jolene Ivey
Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

DATE: 8/1/24 BY: Angela D. Alsobrooks
Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive

KEY:

Underscoring indicates language added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate language deleted from existing law.
Asterisks *** indicate intervening existing Code provisions that remain unchanged.

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