

# Prince George's County Council

## Agenda Item Summary

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**Meeting Date:** 11/20/2012  
**Reference No.:** CB-087-2012  
**Draft No.:** 2  
**Proposer(s):** Olson, Lehman, Campos  
**Sponsor(s):** Olson, Lehman, Campos  
**Item Title:** An Act amending the recycling program provisions in Prince George's County to establish updated recycling goals and setting forth the time for compliance; amends the residential recycling program for multifamily facilities, establishes a commercial and industrial recycling program and a pilot food composting program, amends the Solid Waste Management Advisory Commission; and generally relating to the County's recycling program.

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**Drafter:** Todd M. Turner, Legislative Officer  
**Resource Personnel:** Dannielle Glaros, Legislative Aide  
Thomas Mayah, Citizens Service Specialist Dist. 3  
Matthew Dernoga, Citizens Service Specialist Dist 1

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### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

<b>Date Presented:</b>	9/25/2012	<b>Executive Action:</b>	12/6/2012 S
<b>Committee Referral:</b>	9/25/2012 - THE	<b>Effective Date:</b>	1/22/2013

**Committee Action:** 10/11/2012 - FAV(A)

**Date Introduced:** 10/23/2012  
**Public Hearing:** 11/20/2012 - 10:00 AM

**Council Action (1)** 11/20/2012 - ENACTED  
**Council Votes:** WC:A, DLD:A, MRF:A, AH:A, ML:A, EO:A, OP:A, IT:A, KT:A  
**Pass/Fail:** P  
**Remarks:**

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### AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

21-125.01, 21-125.03, 21-125.04, 21-142, 21-143, 21-149, 21-149.01, 21-149.02, 21-152, 21-154

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### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Transportation, Housing and Environment Committee** **Date 10/11/2012**

Committee Vote: Favorable with Amendments, 4-0-1 (In favor: Council Members Olson, Toles, Davis, and Lehman – Abstain - Patterson)

The Legislative Officer provided a summary of Proposed Draft 2 of the bill and referral comments that were received. CB-87-2012 amends the County Recycling Program For the purpose of amending the recycling program provisions in Prince George's County to establish updated recycling goals, setting forth the time for compliance; amends the residential recycling program for multifamily facilities establishes a commercial and industrial recycling program and pilot food composting program, amends the Solid Waste Management Advisory Commission; and generally relating to the recycling program

Dennis Bigley, Beverly Warfield and Marilyn Ryback, Department of Environmental Resources, provided additional information, responded to questions from the Committee and spoke in support of this legislation. Kerry Watson, Council Liaison, Office of the County Executive, spoke in support of the bill but highlighted potential budget impacts as a result of enactment. Leza Hoover, Vice-President, Apartment and Office Building Association of Metropolitan Washington (AOBA), also provided testimony in support CB-87-2012 and the proposed an amendment to include a definition of condominium in the bill (Note: it is already defined in Sec. 21-143(a)(8)).

A summary of the Proposed Amendments #1 (increasing percentage goals for recycling from 50% to 55% by FY 2018 and from 55% to 60% by FY 2020) and #2 (restricting the use of plastic bags for yard waste at the Western Branch composting facility as January 1, 2014) by Council Member Lehman was provided. Council and Departmental staff provided additional information to the Committee in response to questions by members.

The Committee adopted CB-45-2012 with Amendment #1 and #2 and AOBA request as reflected in Draft 2.

The Office of Law determined that CB-87-2012 was in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its enactment.

The Office of Audits and Investigation indicated there will be a fiscal impact on the County as a result of adopting CB-87-2012. However the amount of the impact cannot be determined at this time due to a number of unknown variables. A positive fiscal impact may be realized if the final size of the transfer station is downsized, and if the County improves its recycling rates and reduces the amount of waste that will be land filled or transferred. A negative fiscal impact may be realized depending on the cost to implement the new programs

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:**

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

This legislation seeks to amend the County's solid waste recycling program to establish updated recycling goals, setting forth the time for compliance; amends the residential recycling program for multifamily facilities, establishes a commercial and industrial recycling program and a pilot food composting program.

The General Assembly in 2012 passed legislation that amends the Statewide and local recycling rates for governments (HB 929 – Chap. 692 of the Laws of 2012) and requires the County and certain apartments/multifamily buildings and condominiums to implement recycling by submission of plans and reports (SB 208 – Chap. 191 of the Laws of 2012).

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**CODE INDEX TOPICS:**

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**INCLUSION FILES:**

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