

## Prince George's County Council

### Agenda Item Summary

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**Meeting Date:** 7/2/2013  
**Reference No.:** CB-032-2013  
**Draft No.:** 2  
**Proposer(s):** Franklin, Davis, Harrison, Lehman, Olson, Patterson, Toles, Turner  
**Sponsor(s):** Franklin, Davis, Harrison, Lehman, Olson, Patterson, Turner, Toles  
**Item Title:** An Act concerning Summer Youth Employment for the purpose of establishing a summer youth jobs program and a nonlapsing youth jobs fund.

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**Drafter:** Legislative Officers  
**Resource Personnel:** Brendon L. Laster, Legislative Aide District 9

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#### LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

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|----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| <b>Date Presented:</b>     | 5/14/2013        | <b>Executive Action:</b> | 8/6/2013 S |
| <b>Committee Referral:</b> | 5/14/2013 - HEHS | <b>Effective Date:</b>   | 9/23/2013  |

**Committee Action:** 6/19/2013 - FAV(A)

**Date Introduced:** 7/2/2013  
**Public Hearing:** 7/24/2013 - 10:00 AM

**Council Action (1)** 7/24/2013 - 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:

02-502, 02-503, 02-504, 10-306, 10-307

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#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### Health, Education and Human Services

**Date 6/19/2013**

Committee Vote: Favorable with amendments, 5-0 (In favor: Council Members Patterson, Davis, Campos, Lehman and Turner.

Staff gave an overview of the legislation and informed the committee of referral comments that were received. CB-32-2013 amends the Prince George's Code by adding Subtitle 2, Sections 2-502 to 2-504 and Subtitle 10, Sections 10-301 to 10-302. The proposed legislation authorizes the Director of the Office of Human Resources Management (OHRM), or other designee of the County Executive (the "Program Director"), to establish and implement a Summer Youth Jobs Program (the "Program") for youth domiciled in Prince George's County, subject to an annual appropriation and availability of funds with specific requirements as outlined in Section 2-503.

The proposed legislation also establishes a Youth Jobs Fund (the "Fund"), which does not lapse and will be managed by the Director of OHRM or other County Executive designee (of which only 10% of the Fund's balance may be used for administrative or vendor costs).

Annually, on or before November 1, the Director of OHRM or other designee of the County Executive shall provide

to the County Council a report that details the Program's activities and projects, budget and expenditures for all funding sources. The report must also include an assessment of methods to possibly improve the Program's administration and effectiveness.

The sponsor indicated that this legislation mirrors the District of Columbia's program to include language relative to partnering with the private sector allowing the flexibility of subsidizing wages. Partnering with the private sector will allow youth the opportunity to experience employment in the private sector.

The OHRM Director indicated that the current year's program started on June 17th and will end August 2, however youth that were not able to begin until July 1, 2012 will work through August 9. The program services youth between the ages of 15 and 19 with a regular forty hour work week. The program is six (6) weeks in duration that includes two (2) days of orientation. The program sponsored 480 youths to include 100 youth from a grant provided to Social Services System and 33% from the TNI areas. Currently, youth between the ages of 15 and 17 earn \$7.25 per hour and youth between the ages of 18 and 19 earn \$10.00 per hour. The OHRM Director further indicated that "The Bus" provides free transportation for the youth getting to and from work.

After lengthy discussion surrounding issues such as: household income levels (200% of federal poverty guidelines) leveraging existing program to serve more by considering stipend (minimum wage), impact of advancing orientation from two (2) days to 5 days, "The Bus" cost savings, reporting requirements, and survey of participants, the following amended were proposed:

CB-32 was amended on page 2, Section (2), line 20; modifying the ages between "14 and 21" to "15 and 19."

On page 2, Section (3) lines 24 and 25; the language was deleted, "Registration for the summer youth jobs program shall occur between the second Monday of February and the second Monday of April of each year."

On page 2, Section (4) line 28; sentence ends after the word "job." The language after "job" was deleted, "but shall not be less than 20 or more than 25 hours per week. Participants in this program shall be employed for a period of no more than 6 weeks."

On page 3, Line 12 thru 15, Section (7); language deleted.

The bill requires the Director of OHRM to submit to the County Council a report that details the activities, budget and expenditures, at the program level, of all programs, activities, and projects undertaken by the Youth Jobs fund from all available funding sources. The County Executive representative indicated that while the County Executive supports the bill, he expressed concern with the agency's ability to comply with all of the requirements due to lack of resources.

The Director of Office of Budget & Management indicated that the "nonlapsing fund" in accounting term is a "nonlapsing account." However, the fund will have the required impact of the funds not reverting back to the General Fund.

The Office of Audits and Investigations indicates that enactment of CB-32-2013 could potentially have an estimated negative fiscal impact between \$186,250 and \$363,364 not including undefined administrative costs, as estimated by OHRM. The fiscal years 2014 funding level for the Program is sufficient to cover these potential costs.

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:**

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

The proposed legislation will establish a summer youth jobs program to provide employment opportunities to County youth and a nonlapsing youth jobs fund.

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**CODE INDEX TOPICS:**

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**INCLUSION FILES:**

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