

Prince George's County Council

Agenda Item Summary

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| Meeting Date: | 10/22/2013 |
| Reference No.: | CB-063-2013 |
| Draft No.: | 2 |
| Proposer(s): | Patterson |
| Sponsor(s): | Patterson, Davis, Franklin, Harrison, Lehman, Olson, Turner, Toles |
| Item Title: | An Act requiring signage at County facilities denoting that it is a Drug Free Zone. |

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| Drafter: | Leroy D. Maddox, Jr., Legislative Officer |
| Resource Personnel: | Ellis F. Watson, Chief of Staff District 8 |

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

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|----------------------------|--|--------------------------|-------------|
| Date Presented: | 7/24/2013 | Executive Action: | 11/1/2013 S |
| Committee Referral: | 7/24/2013 - HEHS | Effective Date: | 7/1/2014 |
| Committee Action: | 9/12/2013 - FAV(A) | | |
| Date Introduced: | 9/24/2013 | | |
| Public Hearing: | | | |
| Council Action (1) | 10/22/2013 - ENACTED | | |
| Council Votes: | WC:-, DLD:A, MRF:A, AH:A, ML:A, EO:A, OP:A, IT:A, KT:A | | |
| Pass/Fail: | P | | |
| Remarks: | | | |

AFFECTED CODE SECTIONS:

14-166.01

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Date 9/12/2013

Staff gave an overview of the legislation and informed the committee of referral comments that were received. CB-63-2013 amends the Prince George's County Code by

requiring County buildings and facilities to include recreational facilities to display signage containing language or symbols designating the County property as a drug free zone. The signage must be visibly displayed at the entrance of each County facility. The Sponsor of the legislation modified the bill to change the effective date to July 1, 2014 and delete the following language on page 2 line 18, “to take effect forty-five 45 calendar days after it becomes law.”

The sponsor informed the committee that CB-63-2013 provides an opportunity for additional signage to promote “no tolerance of drug use” on any county facility. The sponsor further indicated that Mr. Ronnie Gathers, Director, Department of Parks & Recreations, supports; however requested additional time for the effective date.

The Office of Central Services supports the intent of CB-63-2013 and provided information on county owned and leased buildings. The Committee determined that for purposes of legality, the legislation will only apply to the 117 county owned buildings and would include the buildings and surrounding county real property.

The Committee also modified the bill to include language to clarify which county facilities are applicable under this legislation. On page 2, lines 6 and 7 the following language was added: “as well as facilities of the Prince George’s County Library System, Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Health Department.”

As it related to cost to implement the Legislation, the committee recommended that the Office of Central Services follow the same pattern as the School System; pole signage on the property and signage displayed at the entrance of the facility. The committee indicated that working with the School System should provide cost savings and uniformity.

The Police Department representative indicated that the agency supports the intent of the bill.

The Office of Audits & Investigations reviewed CB-63-2014 and determined that enactment of the bill will have an approximate negative fiscal impact of approximately \$10,728 on the County. The Department of Public Works and Transportation estimates that each Drug Free Zone sign will cost \$72.00.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT:

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

This act reaffirms the County Council’s commitment to addressing the problem of drug prevalence in the community.

CODE INDEX TOPICS:

INCLUSION FILES: