PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2019 Legislative Session

Reference No.:	CB-28-2019
Draft No.:	1
Committee:	GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND FISCAL POLICY
Date:	6/27/19
Action:	FAV

REPORT: Favorable 4-0: Council Members Davis, Dernoga, Anderson-Walker and Streeter

The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy convened on June 27,2019 to review CB-28-2019.

As proposed CB-28-2019 would double the maximum total dollar amount of tax credits granted for solar or geothermal energy conservation devices under Section 10-235.06 of the County Code from $250,000 per year to $500,000 per year. According to the Office of Finance, the average number of applicants is 147. Increasing the maximum funding level to $500,000 would reduce the existing backlog from FY30 to FY25, however, a backlog would continue to grow if more than 100 applications are approved annually.

The Committee was privy to an extensive policy analysis of this issue beginning with the history of the tax credit and the evolution of the solar energy. The analysis consisted of what other Counties are offering as tax credits, residential solar energy trends and reducing the tax credit backlog.

It was pointed out that:

$500,000 would reduce the backlog from FY30 to FY25

$750,000 would reduce the backlog from FY30 to FY23

$1,000,000 would reduce the backlog from FY30 to FY22

$2,700,000 would fund the entire wait list in FY20.

The Committee had a very robust discussion on this issue. It was decided to move CB-28-2019 forward but seek the advice of the County Executive as to further financial enhancements over and above the $500,000.

The Office of Law reports CB-28-2019 to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its enactment.

The Office of Audits and Investigation and the Policy Analyst Group prepared an extensive memo which is included in the legislative backup information on CB-28-2019.

The Government Operations and Fiscal Policy Committee voted CB-28-2019 out favorably, 4-0.