

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
2020 Legislative Session

Resolution No. CR-101-2020
Proposed by The Council Chair (by request – County Executive)
Introduced by Council Members Turner, Anderson-Walker, Ivey, Davis, Streeter, Glaros
Dernoga, Harrison, Hawkins and Taveras
Date of Introduction October 13, 2020

RESOLUTION

1 A RESOLUTION concerning

2 Prince George’s County, Maryland’s Fifth Continued Declaration Of Emergency—Coronavirus
3 (“Covid-19”)

4 For the purpose of continuing the emergency declarations most recently adopted by the
5 governing body on September 15, 2020, CR-90-2020, and as may be further amended.

6 WHEREAS, Section 14-111 of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of
7 Maryland provides for the declaration of a Local State of Emergency; and

8 WHEREAS, Section 6-134, et seq., of the Prince George's County Code provides for the
9 declaration of a Local State of Emergency; and

10 WHEREAS, the President of the United States proclaimed that the COVID- 19 outbreak in
11 the United States constituted a national emergency beginning March 1, 2020; and

12 WHEREAS, on March 5, 2020, the Governor of the State of Maryland declared a state of
13 emergency and a catastrophic health emergency for the State of Maryland to control and prevent
14 the spread of COVID-19; and

15 WHEREAS, the World Health Organization, on March 11, 2020, announced that the
16 COVID-19 outbreak can be characterized as a pandemic; and

17 WHEREAS, the County Executive for Prince George’s County, Maryland has issued
18 several local declarations of emergency because of the COVID-19 pandemic: Executive Order
19 Number 6-2020 on March 16, 2020; Executive Order Number 7-2020 on April 13, 2020;
20 Executive Order Number 8-2020 on May 14, 2020; Executive Order Number 10-2020 on May
21 28, 2020; Executive Order Number 13-2020 on June 12, 2020; Executive Order Number 15-
22 2020 on June 25, 2020; and Executive Order Number 20-2020 on September 3, 2020; and

1 WHEREAS, the number of COVID-19 positive cases in the County is more than 30,600,
2 with more than 4000 hospitalizations and approximately 826 deaths; and

3 WHEREAS, based upon data analysis as of October 7, 2020, the County's infection rate is
4 1, its positivity rate is 4.2%, and, the average daily case rate is 11.2 per 100,000 residents; and

5 WHEREAS, the County's health care system continues to need resources to effectively
6 combat this emergency; and

7 WHEREAS, as of August 2020, the County's unemployment rate was 9% (not seasonally
8 adjusted) compared to the State's rate of 7%, resulting in the County having the second highest
9 unemployment rate in the State and the most unemployed persons in the State with
10 approximately 47,010 unemployed residents; and

11 WHEREAS, Section 14-111 (b) (1) of the Public Safety Article of the Annotated Code of
12 Maryland states that the consent of the governing body is needed if a local declaration is
13 continued or renewed for more than 30 days; and

14 WHEREAS, the Order of the Governor of the State of Maryland Number 20-09-28-01,
15 issued September 28, 2020, specifically authorized political subdivisions to issue more restrictive
16 orders than issued by the Governor including requiring any businesses, organizations,
17 establishments, or facilities to close or modify their operations; and/or requiring individuals to
18 remain indoors or to refrain from congregating; and

19 WHEREAS, CR-90-2020 remains in effective through October 16, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.,
20 unless amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive; and

21 WHEREAS, COVID-19 continues to pose an imminent threat to the health, safety and
22 welfare of County residents;

23 WHEREAS, because Prince George's County, Maryland remains in the medium risk
24 category, has seen slight increases in relevant metrics, health experts predict a second wave of
25 new COVID-19 cases, upcoming winter months will lead to persons staying inside more, and the
26 approaching influenza season, it is necessary that the County remain at Phase 2 of reopening:

27 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's
28 County, Maryland, that Prince George's County, Maryland continue under a declaration of
29 emergency due to the COVID-19 outbreak;

30 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Prince George's County Emergency Operations Plan
31 remain in full force and effect until terminated by the County Executive; and

1 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Prince George’s County, Maryland continue in
2 Phase 2 of its reopening; and

3 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that it is necessary and reasonable to save lives and to prevent
4 the further spread of COVID- 19, the orders set forth in Attachment A of this Resolution are
5 fully incorporated and adopted herein; and

6 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that these rules set forth in this Resolution and Attachment A
7 will go into **effect on October 16, 2020 at 5:01 p.m.**; and

8 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the directives set forth herein will be enforced by the
9 Prince George’s County Health Department, with the assistance of Prince George’s County law
10 enforcement and other appropriate County employees as determined by the Chief Administrative
11 Officer, as needed; and

12 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED the County will continue to conduct scheduled and
13 unscheduled inspections of retail, restaurant and business establishments to check for compliance
14 with this Resolution. Non-compliance may subject the owner and/or operator to a fine not
15 exceeding \$1,000 pursuant to the Prince George’s County Code, may subject the establishments
16 to closure pursuant to the legal authority of the Health Officer and/or other legal authority; and

17 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a person who knowingly and willfully violates this
18 Resolution is guilty of a misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to imprisonment not
19 exceeding one year or a fine not exceeding \$5,000 or both.

20 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Executive Branch continue to provide weekly
21 updates to the Council Chair or Vice Chair; and

22 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED this declaration supersedes any inconsistent provision of any
23 prior Executive Order or Health Directive; and

24 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the provisions of the Resolution are severable such that if
25 any provision of this Resolution or its application to any person, entity, or circumstance is held
26 invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, all other provisions or applications of this
27 Resolution shall remain in effect to the extent possible without the invalid provision or
28 application; and

29 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that this declaration of emergency shall stay in effect through
30 November 12, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., unless amended or terminated sooner by the County Executive
31 or as extended by a subsequent resolution of the governing body.

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall take effect on the day it is adopted.

Adopted this 13th day of October, 2020.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE
GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

BY: _____
Todd M. Turner
Council Chair

ATTEST:

Donna J. Brown
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED:

Date: _____

BY: _____
Angela D. Alsobrooks
County Executive