

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2020 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-127-2020
Draft No.: 2
Committee: Committee of the Whole
Date: 11/16/2020
Action: FAV

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable 11-0: Council Members Turner, Anderson-Walker, Davis, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Harrison, Hawkins, Ivey, Streeter and Taveras.

CR-127-2020 is a Resolution Concerning Health in All Policies for the purpose of establishing an approach that recognizes that many health factors are outside of clinical settings and require communities to take a hard look at their investment choices for health.

CR-127-2020, was presented to the County Council on November 17, 2020 and referred to the Committee of the Whole (COW) on the same date. CR-127-2020 seeks to implement a Health in All Policies framework to foster aligned and integrated planning and budgeting across the County to promote the health and well-being of County residents. The purpose of establishing this approach is to allow for a more detailed and thoughtful analysis when budgeting for programs in an effort to receive the highest and most effective return on investment.

Resolution 127-2020 would require the Council, sitting as the Board of Health, to participate in training to assist in facilitating specific education that would enable them to identify and address the disparities within the existing system, utilizing the most current nationally accepted best practices. It would also require them to establish “health priority areas” that would be population and geographically identifiable to “significant health disparities”. They would then establish measurable and attainable goals to eliminate those disparities through County services.

The Resolution outlines future goals for the Council, in their role as the Board of Health, to include partnering with other entities in the development of a primary health care system which would serve the uninsured, those covered by Medicaid, and “culturally diverse populations”; reduction in fragmentation of services between “primary, behavioral, specialty, and hospital-based care”; addressing the health and behavioral needs of students and families within the system; integration of all services, such as health, social and family services, along with public safety to create an overlapping and comprehensive delivery model; identification of additional gaps in service to include deficiencies in housing, environment, and economic development which may impact the overall health and well-being of those residing in the county.

Lastly, CR-127-2020 would seek to require the County Executive to create and share an integrated *Health in All Policies Plan* with the County Council by April 1, 2021. This should include the identification of necessary human and financial resources to accommodate the Plan.

The Council commissioned the RAND Corporation to provide a comprehensive analysis of health-care issues and outcomes within the County, expanding upon their 2009 County report. The RAND Corporation is a nonprofit and nonpartisan research organization that develops solutions to public policy challenges. RAND completed a comprehensive Countywide health needs assessment.

An amendment was accepted by the committee, adding additional work and coordination with Federal, State, Bi-County government partners, the Prince George's County School System and other non-profit entities.

Draft 2 was substituted in lieu of draft 1.

Ms. Terry Bell, Council Liaison, Office of the County Executive, expressed the County Executive's support.

The Office of Law finds CR-127-2020 to be in proper legislative form with no legal impediments to its adoption.

After discussion, the Prince George's County Council, sitting as the Committee of the Whole voted CR-127-2020 out favorably, 11-0.