



# THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

## Office of Audits and Investigations

September 28, 2021

### MEMORANDUM

TO: Robert J. Williams, Jr.  
Council Administrator

William M. Hunt  
Deputy Council Administrator

THRU: Josh Hamlin  
Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

FROM: Warren E. Burris, Sr.  
Senior Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst

RE: Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement  
CB-061-2021 – Building Code of Prince George's County

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**CB-061-2021** (*Proposed by the Chair by request of the County Executive*)  
Assigned to Committee of the Whole (COW)

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AN ACT CONCERNING BUILDING CODE OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSE of increasing civil fines imposed through an administrative citation for the Building Code Violations.

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### **Fiscal Summary**

**Direct Impact:**

*Expenditures:* None.

*Revenues:* Positive

**Indirect Impact:**

None likely.

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**Legislative Summary:**

CB-061-2021, proposed by the Chair at the request of the County Executive was presented on September 14, 2021 and referred to the Committee of the Whole (COW). The purpose of this Bill is to increase the fines imposed through the Building Code for certain violations from \$500 to \$1,000. CB-061-2021 would increase the fines in Section 4-116 and 4-117 from \$500 to \$1,000.

**The Bill:**

- ✓ Deletes \$500 and adds One Thousand dollars per violations in Section 4-116(b) (see page 3, line 5);
  - ✓ Deletes \$500 and adds One Thousand Dollars per violation to Section 4-117(b) (see page 4, line 3);
  - ✓ Amends Section 13-1133(e)(2) to be consistent with the above changes in Subtitle 4 (see page 5, line 7).
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**Background/Current Law:**

Currently, the Prince George's County Code allows the Department of Permitting, Inspection and Enforcement (DPIE) to assess a fine imposed by civil / administrative citation of \$500 for each occurrence of non-compliance with the Building Code. The Enactment of CB-061-2021 will increase the fines from \$500 to \$1,000 for each violation.

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**Discussion/Policy Analysis:**

- *Potential Benefits of Enacting CB-061-2021*

Enacting CB-061-2021 would potentially ensure more compliance with the Prince George's Building Code as the fines increase significantly from \$500 to \$1,000. The increased compliance should enhance the benefits to the community by ensuring more compliant structures and adhering to the permitting standards set by the Department.

- *Potential Costs of Enacting CB-061-2021*

Enactment of CB-061-2021 should require no additional costs to the Department, as it does not impose any additional responsibilities, but merely increases the amount of fines.

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**Fiscal Impact:**

*Direct Impact*

Enactment of CB-061-2021 should require no additional expenditures. Revenue should increase as the fines are doubled from \$500 to \$1,000. DPIE would best be able to provide the expected annual amount of any increase as they would have a firmer understanding of how many of the affected fines are imposed.

*Indirect Impact*

None likely.

*Appropriated in the Current Fiscal Year Budget*

No.

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**Effective Date of Proposed Legislation:**

The proposed legislation shall take effect forty-five (45) calendar days after it becomes law.

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**Resource Personnel:**

Council Administration  
DPIE Staff

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If you require additional information, or have questions about this fiscal impact statement, please call me.