

AGENDA ITEM #14
March 27, 2012

Public Hearing

MEMORANDUM

March 23, 2012

TO: County Council

FROM: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney, *mihill*

SUBJECT: **Public Hearing:** Bill 10-12, Community Action Board - Membership

Bill 10-12, Human Rights and Civil Liberties – Community Action Board, sponsored by the Council President at the request of the County Executive was introduced on March 6, 2012. Action is tentatively scheduled for April 17.

Under current law, the Board must have between 27 and 39 members. Bill 10-12 would reduce the size of the Board to between 15 and 24 members. The Board would retain its current structure of 1/3 each low income, private organization and public official members.

This packet contains:	<u>Circle #</u>
Bill 10-12	1
Legislative Request Report	3
Memo from County Executive	4
Fiscal and Economic Impact Statement	5

Bill No. 10-12
Concerning: Community Action Board –
Membership
Introduced: March 6, 2012
Expires: September 6, 2013
Enacted: _____
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: None
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Council President at the Request of the County Executive

AN ACT to:

- (1) alter the size of the Community Action Board; and
- (2) generally amend County law regarding the Community Action Board

By amending

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 27, Human Rights and Civil Liberties
Section 27-41

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

1 **Sec. 1. Section 27-41 is amended as follows:**

2 **27-41. Creation and organization.**

3 * * *

4 (c) *Board—Composition; membership.*

5 (1) The Community Action Board consists of not more than [39]
6 24 nor less than [27] 15 members.

7 * * *

8 *Approved:*

9

10

11 _____
Roger Berliner, President, County Council Date

12 *Approved:*

13

14

15 _____
Isiah Leggett, County Executive Date

16 *This is a correct copy of Council action.*

17

18

19 _____
Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council Date

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 10-12

Community Action Board – Membership

DESCRIPTION: Reduce the size of the Board but retain its current structure of 1/3 each low income, private organization and public official members.

PROBLEM: It has become increasingly difficult to fill low income and private organization vacancies. Participation by low-income representatives is required to avoid jeopardizing Montgomery County's Head Start and Community Service Block Grant (CSBG) funding.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: To comply with the CSBG mandate to assure participation of its low-income representatives and to create a more efficient, balanced Board that can meet its voting quorum and focus on its mission rather than on continual recruitment to fill vacancies.

COORDINATION: Office of the County Executive

FISCAL IMPACT: To be requested.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: To be requested.

EVALUATION: To be requested.

EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE: To be researched.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Beth Gochrach, Offices of the County Executive.

APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES: To be researched.

PENALTIES: Not applicable.



OFFICES OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Timothy L. Firestine
Chief Administrative Officer

MEMORANDUM

January 26, 2012

TO: Roger Berliner, President
Montgomery County Council

FROM: Isiah Leggett, County Executive 

SUBJECT: Bill to Reduce Size of Community Action Board

I am submitting, for the Council's consideration, a bill that would reduce the number of members who serve on the Community Action Board. Under current law, the Board must contain between 27 and 39 members with one-third representation each from low-income, private organization, and public official members. The proposed bill would retain the one-third structure, but lower the range of membership to between 15 and 24 members.

This change is necessary because it has become increasingly difficult to fill vacancies in the Board's low-income and private organization membership. Low levels of participation by these constituencies jeopardizes Montgomery County's Head Start and Community Services Block Grant funding and the Board's ability to act swiftly on behalf of these programs.

A smaller Board will also allow the Board to spend more time on its core mission and less time recruiting to fill the many vacancies. The current size of the Board often makes it difficult for the Board to meet quorum requirements which also impedes its ability to do business.

Many other community action agencies function effectively with boards of the size proposed in this legislation. For example, our neighbors in Frederick County have a 15-member Board, while Fairfax County has a 30-member Board.

Thank you for your consideration of this legislation.

Attachments

c: Uma S. Ahluwalia, Director, Department of Health and Human Services
Connie Latham, Special Assistant to the County Executive
Beth Gochrach, Office of the County Executive

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ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND

MEMORANDUM

March 20, 2012

TO: Roger Berliner, President, County Council

FROM: Jennifer A. Hughes, Director, Office of Management and Budget *JAH*
Joseph F. Beach, Director, Department of Finance *JFB*

SUBJECT: Bill 10-12 - Community Action Board - Membership

Attached please find the fiscal and economic impact statements for the above-referenced legislation.

JAH:ps

c: Kathleen Boucher, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer
Lisa Austin, Offices of the County Executive
Joy Nurmi, Special Assistant to the County Executive
Patrick Lacefield, Director, Public Information Office
Alex Espinosa, Office of Management and Budget
Beryl Feinberg, Office of Management and Budget
Pofen Salem, Office of Management and Budget
Naeem Mia, Office of Management and Budget

Fiscal Impact Statement
Council Bill 10-12 - Community Action Board - Membership

1. Legislative Summary.

This legislation proposes to reduce the size of the Community Action Board by lowering the range of membership to between 15 and 24 members from between 27 and 39 members. The board composition will retain its current structure of one-third (1/3) of each category of: low income, private organization, and public official members.

2. An estimate of changes in County revenues and expenditures regardless of whether the revenues or expenditures are assumed in the recommended or approved budget. Includes source of information, assumptions, and methodologies used.

The Community Action Board does not generate any revenue. No change in expenditures is anticipated as a result of this legislation.

3. Revenue and expenditure estimates covering at least the next 6 fiscal years.

The general fund expenditure allocation for the Community Action Board has been \$2,150 for each of the last ten years. It is expected that expenditures will not change for the next six fiscal years. There are no revenues associated with the Community Action Board.

4. An actuarial analysis through the entire amortization period for each bill that would affect retiree pension or group insurance costs.

Not applicable. There are no personnel costs associated with this bill.

5. Later actions that may affect future revenue and expenditures if the bill authorizes future spending.

Not applicable. This bill does not authorize future spending.

6. An estimate of the staff time needed to implement the bill.

Not applicable.

7. An explanation of how the addition of new staff responsibilities would affect other duties.

Not applicable. This bill will not increase staff responsibilities.

8. An estimate of costs when an additional appropriation is needed.

Not applicable.

9. A description of any variable that could affect revenue and cost estimates.

Not applicable.

10. Ranges of revenue or expenditures that are uncertain or difficult to project.

Not applicable.

11. If a bill is likely to have no fiscal impact, why that is the case.

Since the board does not generate any revenue and expenditures are not anticipated to change (regardless of membership count), this legislation is unlikely to produce any fiscal impact.

12. Other fiscal impacts or comments.

None.

13. The following contributed to and concurred with this analysis:

Patricia Stromberg, Department of Health and Human Service

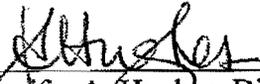
Sharon Strauss, Department of Health and Human Service

Patricia Brennan, Department of Health and Human Service

Pofen Salem, Office of Management and Budget

Beryl Feinberg, Office of Management and Budget

Nacem Mia, Office of Management and Budget



Jennifer A. Hughes, Director
Office of Management and Budget

3/19/12

Date

Economic Impact Statement
Council Bill 10-12, Community Action Board – Membership

Background:

Under current law, the Community Action Board (Board) must have between twenty-seven (27) and thirty-nine (39) members. This legislation would reduce that size to between fifteen (15) and twenty-four (24) members. The legislation does not affect the current structure of the Board: one-third (1/3) from low income, private organizations, and public officials. The legislation addresses the difficulty in filling low-income members and membership from private organizations. The legislation attempts to comply with the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) mandate to assure participation by low-income members.

1. The sources of information, assumptions, and methodologies used.

Not applicable

2. A description of any variable that could affect the economic impact estimates.

Not applicable

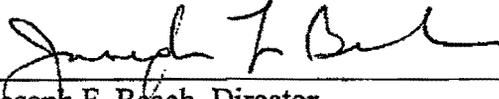
3. The Bill's positive or negative effect, if any on employment, spending, saving, investment, incomes, and property values in the County.

This legislation would have no economic impact.

4. If a Bill is likely to have no economic impact, why is that the case?

This legislation would have no economic impact, as it is administrative in nature. It reduces the size of the current Board to between 15 and 27 members to assure participation by low-income members and members from private organizations.

5. The following contributed to and concurred with this analysis: David Platt and Mike Coveyou, Finance



Joseph F. Beach, Director
Department of Finance

3/16/12
Date