

APPROVED

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Monday, February 26, 2018

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland convened in the Council Conference Room, Stella B. Werner Council Office Building, Rockville, Maryland, at 12:36 P.M. on Monday, February 26, 2018.

PRESENT

Councilmember Hans Riemer, President
Councilmember Roger Berliner
Councilmember Tom Hucker
Councilmember George Leventhal

Councilmember Nancy Navarro, Vice President
Councilmember Marc Elrich
Councilmember Sidney Katz
Councilmember Craig Rice

ABSENT

Councilmember Nancy Floreen

The President in the Chair.

SUBJECT: Discussion - State Legislative Program

Reference: Agenda Item 1

Received an update on the 2018 session of the Maryland General Assembly from Ms. Wenger, Director, Ms. Boucher, Ms. Morningstar, Office of Intergovernmental Relations (OIR); and Ms. Frey, Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Ms. Wenger stated that she would distribute to Councilmembers at the next meeting copies of the 2018 report "Overview of Maryland Local Governments," which contains financial and demographic information.

Supported without objection HB856/SB647, Earned Income Tax Credit - Individuals Without Qualifying Children - Expansion; HB1224, Ending Youth Homelessness Act of 2018; HB1267/SB869, Criminal Procedure - Motion to Vacate Judgment - Human Trafficking; HB 1493/SB526, Labor and Employment - Regulation of Farm Labor Contractors and Foreign Labor Contractors; HB1276/SB881, Criminal Law - Human Trafficking and Prostitution

Offenses; HB1302, Family Violence - Seizure of Lethal Weapons - Lethal Violence Protective Order; HB1453/SB732, Clean Energy Jobs Act of 2018; HB878, Public Utilities - Renewable Energy - Electric and Gas Bills (100% Clean Renewable Energy Equity Act of 2018); HB1415/SB1092, Education - Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education; and HB605, State Student Loan Refinancing Program - Market-Specific Consultant Study.

Took no position on HB393, Elementary School Students - Daily Physical Activity (Student Health and Fitness Act); Mr. Leventhal stated for the record that he supported HB393. Also, took no position on HB1116, Public Safety - Agritourism - Permit Exemption.

Mr. Criss, Director, Office of Agriculture; Ms. Schwartz Jones, Director, Department of Permitting Services; and Mr. Zyontz, Senior Legislative Analyst, participated in the discussion on HB1141, Building Performance Standards - Agricultural Buildings Used for Agritourism - Exemption. Discussed implications of the Statewide bill and lessening of agricultural building use requirements. Supported HB1141 with Maryland Association of County's (MACo) proposed amendments.

Received a summary of HB1643, Income Tax - Credit for Contributions to the Maryland Excellence in Education Fund, which OIR will continue to monitor.

Supported HB1697/SB1122, Education - Commercial Gaming Revenues - Constitutional Amendment, with an amendment to increase the tax rate on gaming tables.

Supported HB664/SB543, Labor and Employment - Payment of the Minimum Wage Required (Fight for Fifteen). Mr. Berliner noted for the record that he preferred the way the Council's legislation addressed wages for tipped employees.

Opposed HB1767/SB1188, Wireless Facilities - Permitting and Siting.

Majority generally supported HB1340, Property Tax - Country Clubs and Golf Courses - Rate of Assessment and Term of Agreements, but requested more information on zoning and current taxes paid by country clubs and golf courses.

Supported HB1461, Criminal Procedure - Immigration - Supporting All Families Everywhere (SAFE Act), with amendments proposed by the County Attorney. Noted that further discussion of the bill over the next week may be necessary. Mr. Riemer requested an analysis of the language in HB1461, comparing it to the bill that was introduced last year.

Supported HB749/SB551, Vehicle Laws - Bus Lane Monitoring Cameras - Authorization, with an amendment to broaden the bill to include all public transit.



[Analyst Packet](#)

The meeting adjourned at 1:51 P.M.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Approved/Signed by the Clerk

Megan Davey Limarzi, Esq.
Clerk of the Council