


MEMORANDUM

TO: County Council

FROM: ^{MF} Mike Faden, Senior Legislative Attorney
Josh Hamlin, Legislative Attorney 

SUBJECT: **Introduction:** Bill 55-14, Taxicabs – Centralized Electronic Dispatch System

Bill 55-14, Taxicabs – Centralized Electronic Dispatch System, sponsored by Councilmember Riemer, is scheduled to be introduced on October 28, 2014. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for December 2 at 7:30 p.m., along with Bills 53-14 and 54-14, also introduced today.

Bill 55-14 would require the County Department of Transportation to implement a centralized electronic taxicab dispatch system, and require certain taxicab operators to participate in the centralized electronic taxicab dispatch system.

This packet contains:

Bill 55-14
Legislative Request Report

Circle #

1
3

Bill No. 55-14
Concerning: Taxicabs – Centralized
Electronic Dispatch System
Revised: 10/23/2014 Draft No. 1
Introduced: October 28, 2014
Expires: April 28, 2016
Enacted: _____
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: None
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Councilmember Riemer

AN ACT to:

- (1) require the Department of Transportation to implement a centralized electronic taxicab dispatch system;
- (2) require certain taxicab operators to participate in the centralized electronic taxicab dispatch system; and
- (3) generally amend the law governing the licensing and regulation of taxicabs.

By adding

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 53, Taxicabs
Section 53-111

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:

Sec. 1. Section 53-111 is added to Chapter 53 as follows:

53-111. Centralized electronic dispatch system.

- (a) The Director must establish a centralized electronic dispatch system to dispatch taxicabs for trips that begin or end in the County through an Internet-enabled application, digital platform, or telephone dispatch system.
- (b) The Director may enter into a contract with a licensee or other private party through the County procurement process to manage and operate the system.
- (c) The Director may require every taxicab licensed under this Chapter to participate in the system.
- (d) The Director may require dispatch fees, approved under Section 53-107, to be assessed to cover the costs of operating the system.
- (e) The system must maintain verifiable records, in a form prescribed by the Director, summarizing responses to requests for service made under the system. The system must provide all required records to the Director upon request.
- (f) Nothing in this Section prohibits a licensee from being affiliated with or dispatched by any other two-way dispatch system.

Approved:

Craig L. Rice, President, County Council

Date

Approved:

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 55-14

Taxicabs – Centralized Electronic Dispatch System

DESCRIPTION: Would require the Department of Transportation to implement a centralized electronic taxicab dispatch system, and require certain taxicab operators to participate in the centralized electronic taxicab dispatch system.

PROBLEM: Traditional taxicabs are competing, not always successfully, with often-unregulated taxi dispatch companies.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: To enable, and potentially require, traditional taxicab companies in the County to jointly use an efficient centralized electronic dispatch system adapted to their operations.

COORDINATION: Department of Transportation

FISCAL IMPACT: To be requested.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: To be requested.

EVALUATION: To be requested.

EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE: To be researched.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Josh Hamlin, Legislative Attorney; Michael Faden, Senior Legislative Attorney

APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES: To be researched.

PENALTIES: N/A

F:\LAW\BILLS\1455 Taxicabs-Centralized Electronic Dispatch System\LRR.Doc

3