


**MEMORANDUM**

TO: County Council

FROM: <sup>MF</sup> 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  
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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

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By: Councilmember Riemer

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**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

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

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