

Climate Assessment

Bill 2-23E

Expedited Bill 2-23 | Board of Investment Trustees – Membership – Amendments

Summary

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates that Bill 2-23E will have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change as the bill is proposing a minor administrative change to the membership of the Board of Investments Trustees.

Background and Purpose of Bill 2-23

The purpose of Bill 2-23E is to replace the Director of the Office of Human Resources (OHR) with the Chief Labor Relations officer as an ex-officio member of the Board of Investment Trustees, as requested by the County Executive. Bill 2-23E – Board of Investments Trustees – Membership – Amendments was introduced to the Council on 1/17/23.¹

The responsibility of bargaining and the administration of employee retirement benefits was transferred from OHR to the Chief Labor Relations Officer, whose responsibility is to formulate and implement the County's labor relations policy, including contract negotiations and administration of collective bargaining agreements. As bargaining responsibilities have been transferred from OHR to the Chief Labor Relations Officer, it is more appropriate for that individual to serve on the Board of Investment Trustees, according to the County Executive.

Anticipated Impacts

As the bill proposes a minor administrative change to the membership of the Board of Investment Trustees, OLO anticipates that there will be no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, community resilience, and adaptive capacity.

Recommended Amendments

The Climate Assessment Act requires OLO to offer recommendations, such as amendments or other measures to mitigate any negative climate impacts.² OLO does not offer recommendations or amendments as Bill 2-23E is likely to have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, community resilience, and adaptative capacity.

Caveats

OLO notes two caveats to this climate assessment. First, predicting the impacts of legislation upon climate change is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, uncertainty, and the broad, global nature of climate change. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to inform the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO's endorsement of, or objection to, the bill under consideration

Purpose of Climate Assessments

The purpose of the Climate Assessments is to evaluate the anticipated impact of pending legislation on the County's contribution to addressing climate change. These climate assessments will provide Council with a more thorough understanding of the potential climate impacts and implications of proposed legislation, at the County level. The scope of the Climate Assessments is limited to the County's contribution to addressing climate change, specifically upon the County's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and how actions suggested by legislation could help improve the County's adaptative capacity to climate change, and therefore, increase community resilience.

While co-benefits such as health and cost savings may be discussed, the focus is on how proposed County bills may impact GHG emissions and community resilience.

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Contributions

OLO staffer Kaitlyn Simmons drafted this assessment.

¹ [Bill 2-23E](#)

² Bill 3-22, Legislative Branch – Climate Assessments – Required, Montgomery County Council, Effective date October 24, 2022