

# Climate Assessment

## Office of Legislative Oversight

### Expedited Bill 31-23: Technical Corrections

#### SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates Expedited Bill 31-23 will have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change as the proposed changes would correct typographical and stylistic errors in the County laws.

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#### BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF EXPEDITED BILL 31-23

The County Council periodically enacts a technical corrections bill that fixes typographical and stylistic errors in the County Code. Expedited Bill 31-23 would correct various "technical, typographical, grammatical, reference, and codification errors in, and make stylistic, clarifying, and conforming amendments to various provisions of County law." The changes are all non-substantive in nature.

The Council introduced Expedited Bill 31-23, Technical Corrections, on June 20, 2023.<sup>1</sup>

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#### ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

As Expedited Bill 31-23 proposes typographical and stylistic corrections to the County laws, OLO anticipates the bill will 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.

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#### RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

The Climate Assessment Act requires OLO to offer recommendations, such as amendments or other measures to mitigate any anticipated negative climate impacts.<sup>2</sup> OLO does not offer recommendations or amendments as Expedited Bill 31-23 will 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.

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#### 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.

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## PURPOSE OF CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS

The purpose of the Climate Assessments is to evaluate the anticipated impact of legislation on the County's contribution to addressing climate change. These climate assessments will provide the 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 adaptive 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.

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<sup>1</sup> [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 31-23, Montgomery County Council, June 20, 2023.](#)

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