

**Department of Legislative Services**  
Maryland General Assembly  
2001 Session

**FISCAL NOTE**  
**Revised**

House Bill 826 (Montgomery County Delegation and Prince George's County Delegation)

Environmental Matters

Economic and Environmental Affairs

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**Prince George's County - Rubble Landfills - Special Exceptions**  
**MC/PG 121-01**

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This bill prohibits the district council of Prince George's County from approving a special exception to construct or operate a rubble landfill at a site if an application for such a special exception was previously denied on or after October 1, 1981. The bill also requires a three-fourths majority vote of the district council to approve a special exception to construct or operate a rubble landfill in the county.

The bill takes effect June 1, 2001.

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**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** This bill is not expected to significantly affect State operations or finances.

**Local Effect:** Potential increase in transportation costs in Prince George's County relating to the removal of debris and rubble to landfills outside of Prince George's County.

**Small Business Effect:** To the extent that the bill prohibits a small business landowner from constructing and operating a rubble landfill, the bill would have a significant impact on that landowner.

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## Analysis

**Current Law:** The district council of Prince George's County may provide that the board of zoning appeals, the district council, or an administrative office or agency designated by the district council, in appropriate cases and subject to appropriate principles, standards, rules, conditions, and safeguards set forth in the regulations, may either grant or deny special exceptions and variances to the provisions of the zoning regulations in harmony with their general purposes and intent. Land use decisions normally require a simple majority. Certain decisions require a two-thirds majority vote.

**Background:** The bill would affect two proposed landfill sites in Prince George's County. This includes the proposed Cross Road Trails rubble landfill site in Brandywine, which was originally rejected by the District Council in 1992, and the proposed Maryland Reclamation rubble landfill site on Brown Station Road, which has an application pending before the District Council.

According to the Prince George's County Government, most of the rubble landfills in the county have been or soon will be closed because they have reached capacity. Due to the shortage of landfill capacity in the county, government entities and businesses may have to transport rubble fill to landfills outside of the county resulting in greater costs for disposal.

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### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** None.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery and Prince George's counties, Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:** First Reader – February 14, 2001  
mld/cer Revised – House Third Reader – March 23, 2001  
Revised – Enrolled Bill – April 30, 2001

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