



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Prince George's County Young Democrats Propose Nine Amendments to PG-307-21

Prince George's County, MD - The Prince George's County Young Democrats Legislative Committee has voted to offer substantive amendments to the following bill:

- **PG-307-21; Alcoholic Beverages – Alcohol Density Zones and Licenses**

Sponsored by Delegate Jazz Lewis (D24)

- *FOR the purpose of authorizing the issuance of a Class A beer and wine license for a grocery store in an alcohol density zone in Prince George's County under certain circumstances; prohibiting the issuance of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license for a grocery store in the county; authorizing the Board of License Commissioners for Prince George's County to approve the transfer of a Class A beer, wine, and liquor license into a part of certain alcoholic beverages districts in the county if the original licensed premises is in an alcohol density zone; defining "alcohol density zone"; making a conforming change, and generally relating to alcoholic beverages in Prince George's County.*

Amendments:

- \$2.50 pay increase and additional 2 weeks of paid leave for all workers in any establishment with said license & 20 or more employees at time of license application/renewal;
- Requirement that any establishment with said license can only employ Prince George's County residents or must employ at least 75% of its workforce from Prince George's County;
- Maximum alcohol volumes of 22.1 ounces for beer and 2.25 liters for wine & maximum alcohol content of 15% for beers and 35% for wines;
- Procurement preference for locally grown and processed goods in establishments with said license;
- Establishment of the definition of the term "food desert" as geographic areas where residents' access to affordable, healthy food options (especially fresh fruits and vegetables) is restricted or nonexistent due to the absence of grocery stores within convenient traveling distance.
- Establishment of the definition of "food swamp" as areas with a high-density of establishments selling high-calorie fast food and junk food, relative to healthier food options.
- Annual tax rebate to Prince George's County of 100% of the tax revenue from new alcohol sales in Prince George's County, exclusively for the purpose of creating a Local Grocers' Lockbox Fund to assist local grocers;
- Annual study on licenses, including the zip code of establishment, wealth and race of owner(s), economic and tax revenue impact, public health impact, and food access;
- Study by the House of Delegates' Public Health and Minority Disparities on municipally-operated grocery stores across the United States and the data on their impact on food access and the local economy.

"The members of PGCYD remain committed to amplifying their voices on potential policy decisions that could impact their communities and daily life. We look forward to working with our elected leaders to ensure that public policy presented before us, is for us and for the betterment of everyone, and not just a select few."

Phylicia Henry, Chair of Legislative Affairs as a Whole.

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Written By:

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