



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT

(301) 952-3700
County Council

POSITION STATEMENT

HB1057 (PG406-22)
Prince George's County
Delegation
Education, Health, &
Environment Affairs
Committee

Prince George's County – Recreation Authority –
Authorization

POSITION:

SUPPORT

HB1057 (PG406-22) – Prince George's County – Recreation Authority – Authorization – For the purpose of authorizing the governing body of Prince George's County to establish a recreation authority in the county; establishing the Prince George's County Recreation Authority Blue Ribbon Workgroup to study and make recommendations to the Prince George's County Council regarding the establishment of a recreation authority in the county; stating the intent of the General Assembly regarding the possible transfer of employees from the Maryland–National Capital Park and Planning Commission to a Prince George's County recreation authority; and generally relating to recreation in Prince George's County.

Under current law, the Prince George's County Planning Board is required to (1) provide an adequate and balanced program of recreation to serve the needs and interests of various age groups among the residents of the county; (2) offer a comprehensive youth sports program that provides a variety of sports programming, leagues, and teams throughout the county; and (3) coordinate the program with M-NCPPC's park functions. Passage of HB1057 would allow for these programs to be studied by a select group of individuals to make recommendations on how these programs will be handled in the future.

We acknowledge the excellent work that the M-NCPPC has done in the past and look forward to continued partnerships in award winning the community services they provide. Looking towards the future, having the right voices at the table to ensure all reforms are addressed with a united front is how Prince George's County will continue to serve our residents and meet their needs in the best way possible.

In addition to Delegate Charles' suggested language changes to HB1057; such as changing the original language from including authorizing language to make structural changes to the way Prince George's County handles its youth sports, arts, and recreation programming to strictly the formation of a Blue Ribbon "Work Group." This Work Group would consist of a variety of qualified members which have the basis of knowledge and experience pertinent to the purpose of the Work Group. The Prince George's County Council would like to suggest the following amendments: 1.) County Council needs two representatives on the Blue Ribbon recreation Work Group; 2.) The Blue Ribbon Workgroup should have more time to study (at least 1 year); 3.) The Work Group needs a representative from a National Recreational & Parks Association (to be appointed by the County Council); and 4.) The Work Group should also study ways to improve access to opportunities for County-based small and minority-owned businesses in Parks and Recreation procurements.

County Administration Building – Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772

Prince George's County Council Position Statement – HB1057 – SUPPORT WITH AMENDMENTS

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For the foregoing reasons, the Prince George's County Council **SUPPORTS House Bill 1057 with the aforementioned amendments** and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of this legislation.

Prepared by: LA PEREZ CONSULTING
On behalf of the Prince George's County Council