



THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
OFFICE OF ETHICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY



Aisha N. Braveboy
County Executive

Todd M. Turner
Executive Director

POSITION STATEMENT

POSITION:

SUPPORT

HB 328 (PG/MC 105-26) Prince George's County House Delegation	Public Ethics – Bicounty Commissions – Financial Disclosure Statements
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HB 328 (PG/MC 105-26) seeks to clarify the requirements for submitting, maintaining, and making available to the public the financial disclosure statements (FDS) of members appointed to Bi-County Commissions from Prince George's County by adding the Prince George's County Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA).

Pursuant to current State law, appointees to Bi-County Commissions, including the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC), Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC), and the Washington Suburban Transit Commission (WSTC), are required to file financial disclosure statements (FDS) with the State Ethics Commission (SEC) and a paper copy of their State FDS with the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) of the County where the applicant is seeking appointment. State law requires the CAO to return the FDS for unsuccessful appointees, retain a copy of the FDS for the term of the commissioner, and make the FDS available for public inspection, subject to certain requirements.

The Prince George's County Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA) was established by County law in 2012 to provide greater accountability and oversight of County government operations. In addition, OEA provides support to the County Board of Ethics, including the review and processing of County-required FDS-designated filers and providing public inspection, subject to both State and County law requirements. It should be noted that State law was not amended to include OEA's responsibility for handling FDSs in Prince George's County when it was created in 2012.

HB 328 (PG/MC 105-26) will make the FDS process uniform in Prince George's County by giving authority to OEA to handle Bi-County appointees' documents. Both the Prince George's and Montgomery County Delegations voted favorably with a technical amendment. For the foregoing reasons, the Office of Ethics and Accountability (OEA) **SUPPORTS HB 328 (PG/MC 105-26)** and respectfully requests your favorable consideration of this legislation.

Submitted: Office of Ethics and Accountability
April 2, 2026