

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2019 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 11

RESOLUTION NO. 111 - 2019

Introduced by: Christiana Mercer Rigby

A RESOLUTION amending the Howard County Council Rules of Procedure to provide that legislation shall be read by short title on second and third readings.

Introduced and read first time on September 3, 2019.

By order Diane A. Jones
Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on September 16, 2019.

By order Diane A. Jones
Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted X, Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____ by the County Council on October 7, 2019.

Certified by Diane A. Jones
Diane Schwartz Jones, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. ~~Strike out~~ indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

1 **WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 208(f) of the Howard County Charter provides that the
2 Council shall adopt and publish such Rules of Procedure as it determines are desirable for its
3 efficient operation; and

5 **WHEREAS**, the Council has determined that the Rules of Procedure must be amended to
6 ensure that the Council operates efficiently and effectively.

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the County Council of Howard County,
9 Maryland this 7th day of October, 2019 that the Rules of Procedure of the Howard
10 County Council, set forth in Appendix A of the Howard County Code, are amended as follows:

12 **Appendix A.**

14 **Rules of Procedure for the County Council**
16 **of Howard County, Maryland**

17 Rule 1.007 - Consideration of bills.

18 (a) Reading of Bills. Every bill, before it shall pass the Council, shall be read on three different occasions.
19 Any bill may be rejected upon introduction by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Council.
20 Any bill may be withdrawn from consideration before a vote on its final passage by a vote of two-
21 thirds of the members of the Council. On the first reading, a bill shall be read by number and title only
22 when introduced or when read as a substantively amended bill following readvertisement and re-
23 hearing as provided by these Rules. The public hearing shall be the second reading. On SECOND AND
24 final ~~[[reading]]~~ READINGS, a bill shall be read by number and SHORT title only, except that any
25 member may request on final reading that a bill be read once, section by section for amendment before
26 vote on final passage, and, if amended, any member may request that a bill be read as amended before
27 vote on final passage. If amended as to substance, the bill shall not be passed until the title is rewritten
28 to reflect the substance of substantive amendments, a hearing is set on the substantive amendments,
29 and proceedings are conducted as in the case of newly introduced bills. Amendments may be
30 determined to be substantive by a majority vote of the Council upon motion of any member.

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Rule 1.008 - Consideration of resolutions.

There shall be a first reading and a final reading of each resolution; provided, however, that any resolution may be rejected upon introduction by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Council, and provided further that any resolution may be withdrawn from consideration before a vote on its final passage by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Council. A resolution shall be read by number and title. AT ANY READING OF A RESOLUTION OTHER THAN THE FIRST, THE READING SHALL BE BY NUMBER AND SHORT TITLE. A public hearing may be held on resolutions at the direction of the Chairperson or by motion approved by a majority of the Council. Vote on final passage shall be on roll call by the yeas and nays, and a majority of the votes of the members shall be necessary to pass the resolution. If no member objects, the Council may enact more than one resolution by a single combined roll call vote. An enrolled copy shall be prepared after final passage and certified a true copy by the Administrator. On enrolling, the Administrator shall have authority to correct obvious errors in section references and numbers, capitalization, spelling, grammar, headings and similar matters.