

Amendment 2 to Council Bill No. 11-2025

BY: Deb Jung

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Amendment No. 2

(This Amendment adds several recitals to the bill; amends the “Biomedical laboratories” permitted use category; and amends the proposed “Research and Development Laboratory” use category within the PEC District)

1 On the title page in line four of the Title strike “commercial plastic pellets or feedstock which
2 produces flue gas and requires”, and substitute “catalytic conversion of plastics requiring”.

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4 On page 1, immediately above line, 1 insert the following”

5 “WHEREAS, The Howard County Council is vested with the law-making power of the County,
6 including the power to enact local laws on all matters covered by the express power granted by
7 the General Assembly of Maryland; and

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9 WHEREAS, The Express Powers Act authorizes a Charter county to “enact local laws relating
10 to zoning and planning to protect and promote public safety, health, morals, and welfare.” The
11 Express Powers Act further provides that “it is the policy of the State that the orderly
12 development and use of land and structures requires comprehensive regulation through the
13 implementation of planning and zoning controls” and that “planning and zoning controls shall be
14 implemented by local government”; and

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16 WHEREAS, The Howard County Zoning Regulations are enacted for the purpose of preserving
17 and promoting the health, safety, and welfare of the community; and

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19 WHEREAS, Under the zoning authority vested, the County Council of Howard County
20 determines what uses qualify as a “Research and Development Laboratory” and where such uses
21 are to be most appropriately located; and

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1 WHEREAS, The County Council of Howard County determines that catalytic conversion of
2 plastics at a scale large enough to require an air permit from the Maryland Department of
3 Environment is not compatible with the research and development use in the Planned
4 Employment Center (“PEC”) District and such activities are more appropriate in a manufacturing
5 zoning district; and

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7 WHEREAS, The regulation of air emissions is a Federal and State government responsibility,
8 and the County Council of Howard County is empowered to determine the compatibility of uses
9 in zoning districts; and

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11 WHEREAS, The County Council of Howard County, determines that “Research and
12 Development Laboratory” uses are compatible with the Planned Employment Center (“PEC”)
13 District under certain conditions; and

14
15 WHEREAS, The County Council of Howard County, determines that “federally funded
16 research and development centers and university affiliated research centers” should be included
17 as a permitted use in the Planned Employment Center (“PEC”) District in or to achieve
18 regulatory compliance.

19
20 **NOW THEREFORE,**”.

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22 On page 1, in line 8, insert the following:

23 “BY AMENDING:

24
25 SECTION 116.0: “PEC (PLANNED EMPLOYMENT CENTER) DISTRICT”

26 SUBSECTION B: “USES PERMITTED AS A MATTER OF RIGHT”

27 NUMBER 4. “BIOMEDICAL LABORATORIES””.

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1 On page 2, in line 3, immediately after “laboratories” insert “AND FEDERALLY FUNDED RESEARCH
2 AND DEVELOPMENT CENTERS AND UNIVERSITY AFFILIATED RESEARCH CENTERS”.

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4 On page 3 in line 11, strike “COMMERCIAL PLASTIC PELLETS AND FEEDSTOCK WHICH PRODUCES
5 FLUE GAS AND REQUIRES ” and substitute “CATALYTIC CONVERSION OF PLASTICS REQUIRING”.

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