

Climate Assessment

Office of Legislative Oversight

Bill 12-24: Police – Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee – Compensation

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates that Bill 12-24 will have no impact as the bill is proposing changes to an existing committee whose function does not impact the County's contribution to addressing climate change.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF BILL 12-24

On April 19, 2022, the Montgomery County Council enacted Expedited Bill 49-21, which established the Police Accountability Board and the Administrative Charging Committee. Under Maryland law, each county is required to establish a Police Accountability Board (PAB) and an Administrative Charging Committee (ACC) that review complaints of police misconduct from members of the public and provide policy advice on disciplinary matters, among other responsibilities. The PAB also appoints civilian members of the public to a trial board, which may be requested by an officer charged with police misconduct if they do not accept the discipline recommendation of the ACC.¹

When the PAB and ACC were established in 2022, the legislation provided compensation for PAB and ACC members but not for trial board members. According to a memorandum from the County Executive, this has made it difficult to attract community members to serve on the trial board since they either have to take personal leave or lose paid work hours to serve.² Bill 12-24 proposes that civilian members appointed to serve on trial boards receive \$500 per day for serving during a trial and during the two day training required for trial board service.³

Bill 12-24 also proposes changes to the PAB and ACC compensation structure, illustrated in the table below. When the PAB and ACC were first established, it was assumed the PAB chair would also be chosen to serve on the ACC. The proposed amendment seeks to ensure the individual chosen to serve on both the PAB and ACC is appropriately compensated at the rate of \$22,000, regardless of whether the individual serves as chair of the PAB.⁴

¹ [Bill 12-24 Introduction Staff Report](#), Montgomery County Council, June 18, 2024.

² [Memo from the County Executive included in the Bill Introduction Packet](#), June 18, 2024.

³ [Bill 12-24 Introduction Staff Report](#), Montgomery County Council, June 18, 2024.

⁴ [Memo from the County Executive included in the Bill Introduction Packet](#), June 18, 2024.

Position	Established Annual Salary (2022)	Current Annual Salary with Adjustment (2024)	Proposed Amendment Annual Salary
PAB Chair who also sits on the ACC	\$22,000	\$24,280.51	\$24,280.51
If PAB Chair does not sit on the ACC	-	-	\$17,658.55
PAB member designated to sit on the ACC	-	-	\$24,280.51
PAB Member	\$10,000	\$11,036.60	\$11,036.60
ACC Member	\$16,000	\$17,658.55	\$17,658.55
Trial Board Member	-	-	\$500/day

Source: [Introduction Staff Report for Bill 12-24](#)

Bill 12-24, Police – Police Accountability Board and Administrative Charging Committee – Compensation, was introduced by the Council at the request of the County Executive on June 18, 2024.

ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

As the bill is proposing changes to an existing committee whose function does not impact the County’s contribution to addressing climate change, OLO anticipates Bill 12-24 will have no impact on the County’s contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, community resilience, and adaptive capacity.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

The Climate Assessment Act requires OLO to offer recommendations, such as amendments or other measures to mitigate any anticipated negative climate impacts.¹ OLO does not offer recommendations or amendments as Bill 12-24 is likely to have no impact on the County’s contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, community resilience, and adaptive capacity.

CAVEATS

OLO notes two caveats to this climate assessment. First, predicting the impacts of legislation upon climate change is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, uncertainty, and the broad, global nature of climate change. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to inform the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO’s endorsement of, or objection to, the bill under consideration.

PURPOSE OF CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS

The purpose of the Climate Assessments is to evaluate the anticipated impact of legislation on the County's contribution to addressing climate change. These climate assessments will provide the Council with a more thorough understanding of the potential climate impacts and implications of proposed legislation, at the County level. The scope of the Climate Assessments is limited to the County's contribution to addressing climate change, specifically upon the County's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and how actions suggested by legislation could help improve the County's adaptive capacity to climate change, and therefore, increase community resilience.

While co-benefits such as health and cost savings may be discussed, the focus is on how proposed County bills may impact GHG emissions and community resilience.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OLO staffer Kaitlyn Simmons drafted this assessment.

¹ Bill 3-22, Legislative Branch – Climate Assessments – Required, Montgomery County Council, Effective date October 24, 2022