

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2016, Legislative Day No. 8

Resolution No. 13-16

Introduced by Mr. Fink, Chairman
(by request of the County Executive)

By the County Council, April 18, 2016

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED
Charter Amendment – Copies and Inspection of Records

1 RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Charter of Anne Arundel County
2 requiring that County records be open for inspection and copying in compliance with the
3 Maryland Public Information Act and other applicable law
4

5 *Be it resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That the*
6 *following amendment to the Anne Arundel County Charter is proposed for submission to the*
7 *qualified voters of the County at the General Election in November 2016:*
8

9 **Article X. Miscellaneous**
10

11 **Sec. 1004. [Copies of books and papers on demand.**
12

13 The County Executive shall, with reasonable promptness furnish to any resident of the
14 County, on demand, a certified copy of any book, account or paper kept by any board,
15 commission, office or department of the County government, or such part thereof as may be
16 demanded, except criminal investigation reports, and individual personnel records, upon
17 payment in advance by the person demanding the same of a reasonable fee to be prescribed
18 by resolution of the County Council. This section shall not apply to any papers prepared by or
19 for use of counsel in any action or proceeding to which the County is a party or for use in any
20 investigation authorized by or under this Charter.
21

22 **Sec. 1005. Inspection of books, accounts and papers.] RIGHT TO INFORMATION.**
23

24 All [books, accounts, papers and] records of any COUNTY board, commission, office, or
25 department[, except criminal investigation reports and individual personnel records,] shall [at
26 all times] be open to [the] inspection AND COPYING [of any resident of the County or
27 representative of the press, subject to such reasonable rules and regulations in regard to the
28 time and manner of such inspection as the County Executive, with the approval of the
29 County Council, may make. Public inspection of police records may be permitted to the
30 extent authorized by the County Council or otherwise in accordance with law. This section

1 shall not apply to any papers prepared by or for use of counsel in actions or proceedings to
2 which the County is a party or for use in any investigation authorized by or under this
3 Charter] IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MARYLAND PUBLIC INFORMATION ACT AND OTHER
4 APPLICABLE LAW.

5
6 *And be it further resolved*, That the following question is adopted for submittal to the
7 qualified voters of the County at the General Election in November 2016 for their adoption
8 or rejection:

9
10 “To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to require that County records be open to
11 inspection and copying in accordance with the Maryland Public Information Act and other
12 applicable law.”

13
14 *And be it further resolved*, That this question shall be designated as Question “ ___ ” on
15 the ballot at the General Election in November 2016.

16
17 *And be it further resolved*, That if the majority of qualified votes cast in the election are
18 for the Charter Amendment, this amendment shall stand adopted from and after the 30th day
19 following the election.