

COUNTY COUNCIL OF
 ANNE
ARUNDEL
COUNTY
M A R Y L A N D

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY*

To: All Councilmembers of the Anne Arundel County Council
From: Linda M. Schuett, Legislative Counsel
Date: September 8, 2020
Subject: Bill No. 72-20

Current County law does not regulate unattended donation boxes. Bill No. 72-20 establishes minimum performance standards for the operation and maintenance of these boxes. *See* § 11-17-101.

The bill defines unattended donation boxes as drop-off boxes or other containers used for soliciting and collecting donations of personal property items. *See* § 11-17-102(4). The bill provides that a property owner or operator may not place an unattended donation box on property without having first registered the box with the County. There are two exceptions to the registration requirement, one for boxes that are enclosed within a structure and another for boxes that are accessory to a principal use. *See* § 11-17-103.

The application to become registered requires a signed authorization from the property owner, contact information for the owner and the operator, and a map showing the location of the unattended donation box. If an application contains this information, the Department of Inspections and Permits issues the registration. *See* § 11-17-104.

The registration expires two years after issuance and any application for renewal must be filed one month before the expiration date. The application for renewal must confirm or update the previously provided information. The Department of Inspections and Permits may not renew the registration if there are open citations, unpaid fines, or unresolved violations or complaints. *See* § 11-17-105.

* This Legislative Summary provides a synopsis of the bill as introduced. It does not address subsequent amendments to the bill.

Blight on or within 20 feet of an unattended donation is prohibited. *See* § 11-17-106(a). Blight is defined as a deteriorated condition, to include overflow, graffiti, damaged signs, peeling paint, rust, broken operating mechanisms, dumped material, junk, litter, garbage, trash, and debris. *See* § 11-17-102(1).

An unattended donation box must be maintained in good condition. Servicing, which includes removal of the collected material, must occur not less than weekly within specified hours. The box must contain contact information for the operator. *See* § 11-17-106(b) through (d).