

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2020, Legislative Day No. 14

Resolution No. 15-20

Introduced by Mr. Volke

By the County Council, May 11, 2020

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED  
Charter Amendment – Legislative Procedure – Emergency Ordinances

1 RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Charter of Anne Arundel County to  
2 allow the use of an emergency ordinance to address a situation that needs immediate action  
3

4 *Be it resolved by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, That the*  
5 *following amendment to the Anne Arundel County Charter is proposed for submission to*  
6 *the qualified voters of the County at the General Election in November 2020:*  
7

8 **Article III. The Legislative Branch**  
9

10 **Section 307. Legislative procedure.**  
11

12 (i) **Effective Date of Ordinances; Prohibited Subject Matter for Emergency**  
13 **Ordinances.** Except as provided in Section 710 of this Charter for the Annual Budget and  
14 Appropriation Ordinance and ordinances levying taxes or assessments to support the  
15 budget, and except for any ordinance related to transfers of appropriations under Charter  
16 Section 711, supplementary appropriations under Charter Section 712, and amendments of  
17 the capital budget under Charter Section 716, AND EXCEPT FOR EMERGENCY ORDINANCES,  
18 any ordinance enacted by the County Council shall take effect forty-five days after it  
19 becomes law, unless declared to be effective on a later date. Ordinances related to transfers  
20 of appropriations under Charter Section 711, supplementary appropriations under Charter  
21 Section 712, and amendments of the capital budget under Charter Section 716 shall take  
22 effect from the date they become law. If an ordinance is an emergency ordinance as defined  
23 in Section 208(d), or if an ordinance passed at an annual legislative session or a monthly  
24 legislative session-day be declared by the County Council to be an emergency ordinance  
25 necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, and welfare  
26 OR TO ADDRESS A SITUATION THAT NEEDS IMMEDIATE ACTION, it shall take effect from  
27 the date it becomes law. An emergency ordinance ~~shall~~ MAY not levy taxes, create  
28 revenue, ~~or~~ grant a franchise or special privilege, ~~or~~ abolish or create any office,  
29 ~~or~~ change any salary, term, or duty of any officer, ~~or~~ create any vested right or  
30 interest, or create or expand any Capital Project~~,~~ or increase the funding ~~thereof~~  
31 (except in cases where) FOR A CAPITAL PROJECT UNLESS the increase in funding is

1 required solely to meet cost escalation and does not affect the scope of the project as  
2 originally budgeted[[D]]].

3

4 *And be it further resolved*, That the following question is adopted for submittal to the  
5 qualified voters of the County at the General Election in November 2020 for their adoption  
6 or rejection:

7

8 “To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to allow the use of an emergency  
9 ordinance to address a situation that needs immediate action.”

10

11 *And be it further resolved*, That this question shall be designated as Question “\_\_”  
12 on the ballot at the General Election in November 2020.

13

14 *And be it further resolved*, That if the majority of qualified votes cast in the election  
15 are for the Charter Amendment, this amendment shall stand adopted from and after the 30<sup>th</sup>  
16 day following the election.