

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: October 18, 2021  
Subject: Bill No. 95-21

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"Each year up to 1 billion birds die after hitting glass surfaces in the United States." American Bird Conservancy at <https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/why-birds-hit-glass/>.

The purpose of Bill No. 95-21 is to reduce the number of birds that die from hitting glass surfaces. The Bill requires that all glass installed on the exterior walls of nonresidential construction meet certain threat factors. The term "threat factor" is defined "as a score that provides a relative measure of a bird's ability to see and avoid glass." The threat factor is found on a database published by the American Bird Conservancy. See <https://abcbirds.org/glass-collisions/products-database/>.

There are three requirements: (1) all glass from ground level to a minimum of 40 feet above grade must have a threat factor rating of 30 or less; (2) all glass that is 15 feet above a green roof shall have a threat factor rating of 30 or less; and (3) all glazed corners or fly-through conditions shall have a threat factor of 25 or less.

The Bill grandfathers applications for certain plans, permits, and revisions filed before the introduction date of the Bill. Those applications will be governed by the law as it existed before the effective date of the Bill.

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