



## **CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND**

**HB 317  
Oppose**

**Economic Matters Committee**

**Tuesday, February 7, 2017**

**HB 317 Labor and Employment – Wages and Benefits – Preemption of Local Authority**

**Contact: Jason Damweber, Deputy City Manager  
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The City of Takoma Park opposes HB 317, which prohibits a county or municipality from enacting a law that regulates wages or benefits for employees other than employees of the county or municipality.

As a charter county, Montgomery County currently has the authority to regulate local wages and benefits for any employee working within the jurisdiction. The City of Takoma Park abides by the County's minimum wage guidelines and also establishes a Living Wage Requirement each year for contractors doing business with the City. Both Montgomery County's minimum wage and the City's Living Wage exceed the State's minimum wage.

It is the City's position that local governments should be able to establish wages – and wage minimums – for employees within their jurisdictions, especially in the interest of promoting living wages for employees working within the jurisdictions. The City does not wish to have its authority, or the authority of the County, preempted by this bill.

The City urges an Unfavorable Report on HB 317.