



Takoma Park City Council Meeting – March 8, 2017 Agenda Item 2B – 2J

Voting Session (Consent Agenda)

Resolutions Regarding State Legislation

Recommended Council Action

Vote on the resolutions.

Context with Key Issues

The City Council reviews State legislation and considers whether to support, oppose, or take no position. When taking a position on a subject that has not previously been addressed by the Council or if there is a change from a prior position, a resolution is prepared to document the Council's decision.

Council Priority

Livable Community for All, Engaged, Responsive & Service-oriented Government; Fiscally Sustainable Government; Advance Economic Development Efforts

Environmental Impact of Action

N/A

Fiscal Impact of Action

N/A

Attachments and Links

- Resolution Opposing [HB 532](#) ([SB 1133](#)) Election Law – Qualifications of Voters – Proof of Identity
- Resolution Opposing [SB 842](#) ([HB 1354](#)) Voter Registration Integrity Act
- Resolution Supporting [HB 1362](#) ([SB 835](#)) Maryland Law Enforcement and Governmental Trust Act
- Resolution Supporting [SB 740](#) ([HB 1325](#)) Oil and Natural Gas – Hydraulic Fracturing – Prohibition
- Resolution Supporting [HB 514](#) ([SB 184](#)) Energy Efficiency Programs – Calculation of Program Savings and Consideration of Cost Effectiveness
- Resolution Supporting [HB 110](#) Electric Vehicles and Recharging Equipment – Rebates and Tax Credits – Extension and [HB 406](#) ([SB 315](#)) Clean Cars Act of 2017
- Resolution Supporting [SB 422](#) ([HB 602](#)) Keep Antibiotics Effective Act of 2017
- Resolution Supporting [HB 1374](#) State Highway Administration Neighbor Notification Act

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
OPPOSING HB 532 (SB 1133) ELECTION LAW – QUALIFICATIONS OF VOTERS
– PROOF OF IDENTITY**

- WHEREAS, HB 532 (SB 1133) would require a Maryland voter to present a current government issued photo identification in order to receive a regular ballot; and
- WHEREAS, the legislation would require an election judge to refer an individual for a provisional ballot if the voter is unable to provide identification as required or if the voter indicates a change of residence; and
- WHEREAS, under current law, a resident must provide certain identifying information to the State Board of Elections when registering to vote and, if unable to do so, must provide a form of identification when voting for the first time; and
- WHEREAS, requiring a voter to present a government issued photo identification to an election judge at every election will challenge potential voters who have not already obtained the required government issued identification or who are unable to obtain it; and
- WHEREAS, the elderly, people with disabilities, the poor and people of color are most likely to lack the required government issued identification and will be disproportionately affected by a voter identification requirement; and
- WHEREAS, voting a paper provisional ballot is a time consuming and often confusing process that can result in voters leaving the polling place rather than completing the paperwork.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK MARYLAND opposes HB 532 (SB 1133) and similar voter identification requirements that only serve to make it more difficult to vote.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
OPPOSING SB 842 (HB 1354) VOTER REGISTRATION INTEGRITY ACT**

WHEREAS, SB 842 (HB 1354) would require a jury commissioner to provide information within five days to the State Elections Administrator regarding individuals who were summoned as prospective jurors and indicated that they are not citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the legislation would require the State Administrator to direct that the individual's name be removed from the statewide voter registration list; and

WHEREAS, the State Administrator would be required to turn the names supplied by a jury commissioner over to the United States Attorney for prosecution under Federal Law for fraudulently registering to vote; and

WHEREAS, there is already a process for the sharing of information between jury commissioners and the State Elections Administrator regarding individuals who are deceased, who have moved out of the jurisdiction, or who indicate that they are not citizens of the United States yet are included on the statewide voter registration list; and

WHEREAS, the process in place provides for notification by the County Boards of Elections to such individuals so they have an opportunity to correct or dispute the information shared by the jury commissioner, thus ensuring that eligible voters are not erroneously removed from the registration list but that individuals who should not be registered are removed; and

WHEREAS, maintenance of a list to turn over to the United States Attorney for prosecution is not necessary since the corrections can be made through the existing administrative process without involving the criminal justice system.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK MARYLAND opposes SB 842 (HB 1354) and similar legislation that unnecessarily singles out non-citizens for prosecution.

Adopted this ____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
SUPPORTING HB 1362 (SB 835) MARYLAND LAW ENFORCEMENT
AND GOVERNMENTAL TRUST ACT**

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park has a long standing commitment to protecting its widely diverse community; and

WHEREAS, Takoma Park has been a Sanctuary City since 1985 to ensure that our Police Department treats all community members with dignity and respect, regardless of where they are from or their legal citizenship status; and

WHEREAS, Takoma Park law enforcement officers are prohibited from inquiring about an individual's citizenship or immigration status in the course of their duties, from releasing information about an individual's status to any third party (unless required by federal or state law), and from assisting federal officials with an investigation or arrest of someone for violations of U.S. immigration law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council believes that these policies have helped enhance the safety of our City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK supports HB 1362 (SB 835) Maryland Law Enforcement and Governmental Trust Act to ensure that any non-U.S. citizen in the State of Maryland can feel comfortable reaching out to, or cooperating with, law enforcement officials and be able to TRUST that doing so will not result in an inquiry into citizenship or immigration status.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
SUPPORTING SB 740 (HB 1325) OIL AND NATURAL GAS –
HYDRAULIC FRACTURING – PROHIBITION**

WHEREAS, there has been a Maryland moratorium on the issuance of permits for hydraulic fracturing (fracking) of a well for the exploration or production of natural gas until October 1, 2017; and

WHEREAS, SB 740 (HB 1325) would expand the definition of hydraulic fracturing and prohibit the practice in the State of Maryland; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is concerned about the environmental and public health effects that result from hydraulic fracturing; and

WHEREAS, the Council is also concerned about expansion of the production of fossil fuels and the resulting greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK supports a prohibition on the practice of hydraulic fracturing in Maryland.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
SUPPORTING HB 514 (SB 184) ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS – CALCULATION OF PROGRAM
SAVINGS AND CONSIDERATION OF COST EFFECTIVENESS**

WHEREAS, HB 514 (SB 184) would require the Public Service Commission to require each electric company to procure or provide for customers cost-effective energy efficiency and conservation programs to reduce demand and save electricity; and

WHEREAS, such programs reduce carbon emissions, help reduce air pollution, conserve resources, and reduce costs for consumers; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to environmental sustainability.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK supports HB 514 (SB 184).

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
SUPPORTING HB 110 ELECTRIC VEHICLES AND RECHARGING EQUIPMENT – REBATES AND TAX
CREDITS – EXTENSION AND HB 406 (SB 315) CLEAN CARS ACT OF 2017**

WHEREAS, the City Council, in its efforts to ensure an environmentally sustainable community, supports efforts to encourage use of electric vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the City of Takoma Park is developing an infrastructure to support charging of electric vehicles at various locations in the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council endorses efforts by the State of Maryland to support increased use of electric vehicles.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK SUPPORTS HB 110 and HB 406 (SB 315).

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
SUPPORTING SB 422 (HB 602) KEEP ANTIBIOTICS EFFECTIVE ACT**

WHEREAS, the City Council, in its efforts to ensure a healthy and environmentally sustainable community, supports SB 422 (HB 602) to eliminate the routine use of antibiotics to prevent disease in poultry and livestock; and

WHEREAS, as drafted, the bill would continue to allow antibiotic use to prevent the spread of disease or disease treatment; and

WHEREAS, overuse of antibiotics in low doses in livestock and poultry as a disease preventative contributes to the growth of antibiotic resistant bacteria in these animals; and

WHEREAS, such bacteria leave the farm and can infect humans through contaminated meat, air, water, soil, and those who work on the farms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK SUPPORTS SB 422 (HB 602).

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk

Introduced by:

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND
RESOLUTION 2017-
SUPPORTING HB 1374 STATE HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION NEIGHBOR NOTIFICATION ACT**

WHEREAS, HB 1374 would require the State Highway Administration to send certain notices to nearby property owners in advance of certain planned construction; and

WHEREAS, the City Council supports earlier and better notification to property owners and residents; and

WHEREAS, the Council requests that the bill be amended to include notification to municipalities where the State highways are located.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK SUPPORTS HB 1374 with an amendment to include notification to municipalities.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2017.

Attest:

Jessie Carpenter, CMC
City Clerk