

Office of the County Auditor
Auditor's Analysis

Council Bill No. 5-2023

Introduced: January 3, 2023

Auditor: Michael A. Martin

Fiscal Impact:

According to the Department of Inspections, Licenses, and Permits (Department), there will be no immediate fiscal impact from this legislation. The Plan Review Division will be tasked with completing this report.

Purpose:

This legislation would require the Department to recommend changes to the Howard County Building Code in order to implement all-electric building standards for all new construction, major renovations, and additions. These recommendations are to be provided to the County Council in a report detailing the updates to the Building Code that would be needed in order to implement such changes.

The legislation requires certain considerations to be made by the Department during their review and that the Department evaluate certain exemptions to the implementation of all-electric building standards in its report.

Other Comments:

This legislation emphasizes that any revisions to the Howard County Building Code should center around initiatives that would promote energy efficiencies, minimize electric consumption, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions with a particular focus on affordable housing.