

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**COUNTY COUNCIL APPROVES LEGISLATION SUPPORTING**  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAMS**

*Council Resolution Raises Marriage License Fees to Fund Domestic Violence Programs*

The Prince George's County Council, during a special session on Wednesday, November 5, unanimously adopted Council Resolution 93-2008, which raises Marriage License fees to provide additional funding for domestic violence programs in Prince George's County.

Currently the State of Maryland charges \$10 for a Marriage License, half of which is paid to the County's general fund. Prince George's County sets its own additional marriage license fee.

CR-93-2008 increases the County's additional fee for Marriage Licenses from 45-dollars to 60-dollars. The increase is expected to generate over \$75,000 per year in additional revenue for the Family Crisis Center of Prince George's County.

Council Member Ingrid M. Turner (D) – District 4, co-sponsor of the resolution and Vice-Chair of the Council's Public Safety and Fiscal Management Committee which considered the legislation in October, says domestic abuse is a major issue of great concern in Prince George's County.

"The effects of the worsening economy are far reaching and we can't ignore the upsurge in domestic violence as families struggle to make ends meet. It is important to get out in front of this issue and take a proactive approach to address it. Council approval of CR-93 further supports our domestic violence programs with additional funding for education, beds and shelter. We want to do everything possible to aid victims of domestic abuse who need help and a safe place to live."

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*All legislative powers of Prince George's County are vested in the County Council. The County Council sits as the District Council on zoning and land use policy, and as the Board of Health to govern and guide health policy. The County Council meets as a legislative body at 10:00 am on Tuesdays in the Council Hearing Room on the main floor of the County Administration Building in Upper Marlboro. For more information on the Prince George's County Council, please visit [www.princegeorgescountymd.gov](http://www.princegeorgescountymd.gov).*