



**Committee:** Joint  
**Committee Review:** At a future date  
**Staff:** Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney  
**Purpose:** To introduce agenda item – no vote expected  
**Keywords:** #SportsCommission #MCSC

**CORRECTED**

AGENDA ITEM# 12B  
March 15, 2022  
**Introduction**

## **SUBJECT**

Bill 6-22, Recreation – Montgomery County Sports Commission - Established

Lead Sponsor: Council President Albornoz

## **EXPECTED ATTENDEES**

None

## **COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

- N/A

## **DESCRIPTION/ISSUE**

Council Bill 6-22 would establish a 23-member Montgomery County Sports Commission, staffed by the Department of Recreation, to study sports participation and opportunities in the County, to make recommendations to the County Executive and the County Council, and to recognize outstanding teams and athletes in the County.

## **SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS**

- N/A

## **This report contains:**

Staff Report	Pages 1-2
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**MEMORANDUM**

March 10, 2022

TO: County Council

FROM: Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney

SUBJECT: Bill 6-22, Recreation – Montgomery County Sports Commission - Established

PURPOSE: Introduction – no Council votes required

Bill 6-22, Recreation – Montgomery County Sports Commission - Established, sponsored by Council President Alborno, is scheduled to be introduced on March 15, 2022, 2022. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for April 5, 2022 at 1:30PM.<sup>1</sup>

The bill would establish a 23-member Montgomery County Sports Commission, staffed by the Department of Recreation, to study sports participation and opportunities in the County, to make recommendations to the County Executive and the County Council, and to recognize outstanding teams and athletes in the County.

**BACKGROUND**

The Office of the Council President has provided the following background and context for the bill:

Montgomery County has a rich sports tradition and numerous public/private facilities such as the Montgomery County SoccerPlex that provide a significant economic boost to the County and enhance quality of life. Montgomery County is home to Olympic athletes, professional athletes, and numerous State and National Championship teams.

The Office of Legislative Oversight recently conducted an analysis of youth sports participation in Montgomery County. [See OLO Report No. 2020-4, [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2020%20Reports/OLORreport2020\\_4.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2020%20Reports/OLORreport2020_4.pdf); see also OLO Report No. 2022-3, [https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2022\\_reports/OLORreport2022-3.pdf](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OLO/Resources/Files/2022_reports/OLORreport2022-3.pdf).] The report confirmed the numerous benefits of sports participation for children and youth in social and emotional development and overall health and wellness. The analysis also found that there is a wide discrepancy in sports participation in the County, mostly related to social and economic factors.

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<sup>1</sup> SportsCommission; MCSC

It also confirmed that collectively, sports participation is the largest extracurricular activity participated in by children and youth. When added to adult sports leagues and recreational play, sports is the largest participatory activity in the County.

Despite the significant interest and participation and rich history, there is no entity in the County that serves as an organizing body to help conduct research, advocate for enhanced sports opportunities, as well as identify or address discrepancies found in youth sports opportunities.

**BILL SPECIFICS**

Bill 6-22 would create a Montgomery County Sports Commission consisting of 23 members appointed by the County Executive and confirmed by the County Council. The members would serve for 3-year terms.

The duties of the Commission would include:

- (a) preparing and submitting to the County Executive and the County Council an annual report regarding sports participation in the County, including:
  - (1) factors that affect sports participation in the County; and
  - (2) recommendations to improve the quality, quantity, and variety of sports opportunities and facilities in the County; and
- (b) together with the County Executive and County Council, formally recognizing teams and athletes in the County who win state or national championships, or who represent the United States in international competition.

The Commission would be staffed by the Department of Recreation.

This packet contains:	<u>Circle #</u>
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Expedited Bill No. 6-22  
Concerning: Recreation – Montgomery  
County Sports Commission -  
Established  
Revised: 3/7/2020 Draft No. 1  
Introduced: March 15, 2022  
Expires: September 15, 2023  
Enacted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Executive: \_\_\_\_\_  
Effective: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sunset Date: None  
Ch. \_\_\_\_\_, Laws of Mont. Co. \_\_\_\_\_

## COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Lead Sponsor: Council President Alborno

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**AN ACT** to:

- (1) establish a Montgomery County Sports Commission;
- (2) specify the membership and responsibilities of the Commission;
- (3) provide for the staffing of the Commission; and
- (4) generally amend the law regarding recreation and advisory boards.

By adding

Montgomery County Code  
Chapter 41, Recreation and Recreation Facilities  
Sections 41-25, 41-26, 41-27, and 41-28

<b>Boldface</b>	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

*The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:*

1           **Sec. 1. Article IV, Sections 41-25, 41-26, 41-27, and 41-28 are added, as**  
 2 **follows:**

3           **Article IV. Montgomery County Sports Commission**

4 **41-25. Montgomery County Sports Commission – Established.**

5           (a) There is a Montgomery County Sports Commission.

6           (b) For purposes of this Article, Commission means the Montgomery  
 7 County Sports Commission.

8 **41-26. Commission – Membership; officers; and meetings.**

9           (a) The Commission consists of 23 members appointed by the County  
 10 Executive and confirmed by the County Council.

11           (b) The membership of the Commission should reflect the diversity of the  
 12 County, including diversity in race, ethnicity, sex, gender identity,  
 13 sexual orientation, geography, and sports represented.

14           (c) A member:

15                 (1) serves for a term of 3 years; and

16                 (2) must not be appointed to serve for more than 2 consecutive full  
 17 terms.

18           (d) The Commission must elect a chair and a vice-chair from among its  
 19 members.

20 **41-27. Commission – Responsibilities.**

21 The Commission must:

22           (a) prepare and submit to the County Executive and the County Council an  
 23 annual report regarding sports participation in the County, including:

24                 (1) factors that affect sports participation in the County; and

25                 (2) recommendations to improve the quality, quantity, and variety of  
 26 sports opportunities and facilities in the County; and

27           **(b)** together with the County Executive and County Council, formally  
 28           recognize teams and athletes in the County who win state or national  
 29           championships, or who represent the United States in international  
 30           competition.

31 **41-28. Commission – Staffing.**

32           The Department of Recreation must provide staffing to the Commission.

33           **Section 2. Staggered Terms.** The terms of the initial members of the  
 34 Commission must be staggered. Of the initial 23 members, 7 must be appointed to  
 35 serve 1-year terms, 7 must be appointed to serve 2-year terms, and 8 must be  
 36 appointed to serve 3-year terms.

## LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Bill 6-22

*Recreation – Montgomery County Sports Commission - Established*

<b>DESCRIPTION:</b>	Establish a 23-member Montgomery County Sports Commission.
<b>PROBLEM:</b>	The need to expand opportunities in sports throughout the County.
<b>GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:</b>	Increase participation and diversity in sports.
<b>COORDINATION:</b>	Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO)
<b>FISCAL IMPACT:</b>	To be provided
<b>ECONOMIC IMPACT:</b>	To be provided
<b>RACIAL EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE IMPACT:</b>	To be provided
<b>EVALUATION:</b>	To be done.
<b>EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE:</b>	To be determined.
<b>SOURCE OF INFORMATION:</b>	Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney
<b>APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES:</b>	N/A
<b>PENALTIES:</b>	N/A

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