

Introduction

MEMORANDUM

May 2, 2014

TO: County Council

FROM: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney *A. Mihill*

SUBJECT: **Introduction:** Expedited Bill 24-14, Property Tax Credit – Accessibility Features – Eligible Features

Expedited Bill 24-14, Property Tax Credit – Accessibility Features – Eligible Features, sponsored by Council Vice President Leventhal, is scheduled to be introduced on May 6. A public hearing is tentatively scheduled for June 10 at 1:30 p.m.

Bill 24-14 would change the accessibility features eligible for a property tax credit for installing accessibility features on a single-family home. Specifically, Bill 24-14 would amend the definition of feature to ensure that the opening for an exterior doorway is 32 inches rather than 36 inches.

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Expedited Bill No. 24-14
Concerning: Property Tax Credit –
Accessibility Features – Eligible
Features
Revised: 4/21/2014 Draft No. 1
Introduced: May 6, 2014
Expires: November 6, 2015
Enacted: _____
Executive: _____
Effective: July 1, 2014
Sunset Date: None
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council Vice President Leventhal

AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

- (1) change the accessibility features eligible for a property tax credit for installing accessibility features on a single-family home; and
- (2) generally amend County law regarding property tax credits.

By amending

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 52, Taxation
Section 52-18T

Boldface	<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:

Sec. 1. Section 52-18T is amended as follows:

52-18T. Property Tax Credit – Accessibility Features.

(a) *Definitions.* In this Section, the following terms have the meaning indicated.

* * *

Feature means a permanent modification to a residence that results in:

* * *

(4) an exterior doorway that provides a [36] 32-inch wide or wider clear opening, but only if accompanied by exterior lighting that is either controlled from inside the residence, automatically controlled, or continuously on;

* * *

Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date.

The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on July 1, 2014.

Approved:

Craig L. Rice, President, County Council Date

Approved:

Isiah Leggett, County Executive Date

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council Date

LEGISLATIVE REQUEST REPORT

Expedited Bill 24-14

Property Tax Credit – Accessibility Features-Eligible Features

DESCRIPTION: Expedited Bill 24-14 would amend the definition of feature to ensure that the opening for an exterior doorway is 32 inches rather than 36 inches.

PROBLEM: Industry representatives have indicated that the opening of the exterior door is intended to have the 32-inch clear opening. If the 36-inch or wider clear opening is required it would require a much larger door that may not be readily available.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES: To revise the accessibility features eligible for the property tax credit.

COORDINATION: Departments of Permitting Services and Finance.

FISCAL IMPACT: To be requested.

ECONOMIC IMPACT: To be requested.

EVALUATION: To be requested.

EXPERIENCE ELSEWHERE: To be researched.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION: Amanda Mihill, Legislative Attorney, 240-777-7815

APPLICATION WITHIN MUNICIPALITIES: Property tax credit are available throughout the County

PENALTIES: N/A