



## Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** HCC-94-  
FY21      **Version:** 2      **Name:**

**Type:** Consent Item      **Status:** Passed

**File created:** 9/30/2020      **In control:** City Council

**On agenda:** 11/2/2020      **Final action:** 11/2/2020

**Title:** Removing Unjust Penalties in the Municipal Charter and Code - Imprisonment

**Sponsors:** City Administrator

**Indexes:** Charter Amendment, Legislative, Ordinance

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:**

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
11/2/2020	2	City Council	Approved	Pass
10/5/2020	1	City Council	Read into the Record	

Submitted by: Candace B. Hollingsworth  
Submitting Department: Legislative  
Agenda Section: Consent

**Item Title:**  
**Removing Unjust Penalties in the Municipal Charter and Code - Imprisonment**

**Suggested Action:**  
I move that the Mayor and Council direct the City Attorney to remove all existing references to imprisonment or jail as a penalty for violations of the municipal charter and code.

**Summary Background:**  
The City of Hyattsville Charter and Code contains twelve (12) sections where imprisonment is an authorized penalty for violations of the stated code.

These include violations of codes governing:

- Absentee Voting
- Altering/Tampering with Code
- Cable Franchise (Operation without a Franchise)
- Election Misconduct
- Metered Parking (Tampering with Equipment)
- Noncompliance with Stop Orders
- Peddling/Door-to-Door Soliciting
- Personnel Manual
- Rental Licenses (Authorizing Occupation without License)
- Secondhand Property Dealers
- Unauthorized Use of City Logo and Seals

Imprisonment is an inappropriately harsh penalty for these violations and should be removed from the municipal code.

**Next Steps:**

Upon Council approval, the City will proceed with review and update of the Charter/Code. The changes will come back to Council in the form of ordinances (or one aggregate ordinance) for discussion and adoption.

**Fiscal Impact:**

Legal fees.

**City Administrator Comments:**

Click or tap here to enter text.

**Community Engagement:**

The updated City Charter and Code will be posted on the City's website.

**Strategic Goals:**

Goal 3 - Promote a Safe and Vibrant Community

**Legal Review Required?**

Pending