



# City of Hyattsville

Hyattsville Municipal Bldg  
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## Legislation Text

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

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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