

February 17, 2021

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 21-0017R – Investigative Hearing – Arson and Fire
Fatality Awareness: Re-instituting the Baltimore City Joint Agency Task
Force

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0017R for form and legal sufficiency. This resolution is for the purpose of inviting representatives from the Baltimore City Fire Department, the Baltimore Police Department, the Office of the State's Attorney for Baltimore City, the Baltimore City Health Department, the Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development, the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, the Baltimore City Public School System, and the Mayor's Office of Homeless Services to appear before the City Council to discuss arsons, fire fatalities and injuries, and school fires; how we can work to re-institute the Joint Agency Arson Task Force; and discuss other tools that would assist in the prevention or prosecution of arson.

A resolution is an appropriate way for the City Council of Baltimore to conduct an investigative hearing. *See, e.g., Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium*, 313 Md. 413, 428 (1988). Therefore, the Law Department approves this Resolution for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,



Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

cc: Matthew Stegman
Nina Themelis
Nikki Thompson
Elena DiPietro
Victor Terval
Ashlea Brown