


FROM	NAME & TITLE	David E. Scott, P.E., Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 08-0251		

DATE: February 12, 2009

TO

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 08-0251 introduced by Council Members Kraft, D'Adamo, and Curran.

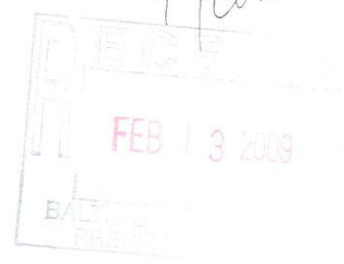
The purpose of the Bill is to increase the penalty for parading without a permit; repeal certain obsolete or otherwise unnecessary provisions relating to parades by political organizations and to parades of drum corps, bands, or other bodies; provide for the issuance of these permits by the Department of General Services and authorize the adoption of rules and regulations for that purpose; and provide for a special effective date.

Article 19 Subtitle 50 of the Baltimore City Code requires a permit to parade through the streets of Baltimore (§§§ 50-31, 50-32 and 50-33). The Mayor is to issue permits for parade requests, with separate provisions specified for political organizations, for bands and drum corps, and for other organizations. Currently, the Bureau of General Services issues Special Event permits for parades, on behalf of the Mayor. A minimal fine of between \$1 and \$5 may be assessed for any person found guilty of this misdemeanor offense.

City Council Bill 08-0251, if approved, would require just one type of permit for any organization or persons wishing to parade in Baltimore City, and that permit would be issued by the Department of General Services (effective date of July 1, 2009 coincides with the creation of the Department of General Services). General Services would be authorized to adopt rules or regulations to carry out the issuance of parade permits, presumably to specify appropriate considerations for timing, routes, notifications, etc. Violators of this section of the Code would still be guilty of a misdemeanor, but could be subject to a fine of not more than \$500, imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment.

Should this legislation be approved, General Services would continue to use the Special Events permit as a parade permit and would issue rules or regulations specifying the requirements and conditions for granting, denying, or revoking a permit to parade in

#comment



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Baltimore. General Services would continue to look to the Police Department for enforcement of any misdemeanor violations. Provided these expectations do not conflict with the interpretation or intent of the legislation, the Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 08-0251.



David E. Scott, P.E.
Director

DES/MMC:pat

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