

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 09-0306  
(First Reader)**

---

Introduced by: Councilmembers Welch, Henry, Middleton, D'Adamo, Kraft, Young, Branch,  
Clarke, Reisinger, Conaway, Curran, Spector, Holton

At the request of: African American Housing Coalition

Address: 2500 N. Eutaw Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21217

Telephone: (410) 728-0666

Introduced and read first time: March 16, 2009

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

---

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and  
Community Development, Department of Finance

---

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 style="text-align:center">**Tax Sales – Deferral for Unemployed**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the Director of Finance to defer, under certain circumstances and  
4 subject to certain conditions and limitations, the public sale of tax-delinquent property whose  
5 owner is unemployed; requiring certain notices; specifying certain required documentation;  
6 authorizing the Finance Director to adopt implementing rules and regulations; and generally  
7 relating to the conduct of tax sales.

8 BY adding

9 Article 28 - Taxes  
10 Section(s) 8-1.1  
11 Baltimore City Code  
12 (Edition 2000)

13 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
14 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

15 style="text-align:center">**Baltimore City Code**

16 style="text-align:center">**Article 28. Taxes**

17 style="text-align:center">**Subtitle 8. Tax Sales**

18 **§ 8-1.1. DEFERRAL OF TAX SALE FOR UNEMPLOYED TAXPAYER.**

19 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

20 THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE SHALL DEFER FOR 1 YEAR THE PUBLIC SALE OF ANY  
21 DELINQUENT RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY THAT IS OWNED AND OCCUPIED, INDIVIDUALLY OR  
22 JOINTLY WITH ANOTHER, BY AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DEMONSTRATES, AS PROVIDED IN THIS  
23 SECTION, THAT HE OR SHE HAS BEEN UNEMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST 90 DAYS IMMEDIATELY

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

**Council Bill 09-0306**

1 PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THE PROPERTY IS FIRST ADVERTISED FOR SALE UNDER  
2 STATE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE § 14-813.

3 (B) *NOTICE TO OWNERS.*

4 WITH EACH NOTICE SENT UNDER STATE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE § 14-812 TO OWNERS OF  
5 RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY, THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE SHALL INCLUDE A SUPPLEMENTAL  
6 NOTICE OF:

7 (1) THE POSSIBLE DEFERRAL AVAILABLE UNDER THIS SECTION; AND

8 (2) THE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING THAT DEFERRAL.

9 (C) *APPLICATION.*

10 (1) THE APPLICATION FOR DEFERRAL MUST BE:

11 (i) IN THE FORM THAT THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REQUIRES; AND

12 (ii) SUBMITTED TO THE DIRECTOR AT LEAST 7 DAYS BEFORE THE DAY ON WHICH  
13 THE PROPERTY IS SCHEDULED TO BE SOLD.

14 (2) THE APPLICATION MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION FROM  
15 THE MARYLAND DIVISION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE.

16 (3) THE UNEMPLOYED OWNER MUST SIGN THE APPLICATION UNDER OATH OR  
17 AFFIRMATION, SUBJECT TO THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY.

18 (D) *NO EXTENSION OR RENEWAL.*

19 A DEFERRAL UNDER THIS SECTION MAY NOT BE EXTENDED OR RENEWED.

20 (E) *RULES AND REGULATIONS.*

21 THE DIRECTOR OF FINANCE MAY ADOPT RULES AND REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS  
22 SECTION.

23 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance  
24 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior  
25 Ordinance.

26 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day  
27 after the date it is enacted.