

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 12-0112
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Henry
Introduced and read first time: July 16, 2012
Assigned to: Committee of the Whole

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance, Board of Estimates

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION of the Mayor and City Council concerning

2 **Charter Amendment – City Council – Reduction in Size**

3 FOR the purpose of reducing the size of the City Council; providing for certain members to be
4 elected at large; requiring that the Council Vice-President and the Council’s representative to
5 the Planning Commission be at-large members of the Council; clarifying, correcting, and
6 conforming certain language; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the
7 City for adoption or rejection.

8 BY proposing to amend

9 Article III - City Council
10 Section(s) 1(b), 2(b) and (c), and 10(b)
11 Baltimore City Charter
12 (1996 Edition)

13 BY proposing to add

14 Article III - City Council
15 Section(s) 2(d)
16 Baltimore City Charter
17 (1996 Edition)

18 BY proposing to amend

19 Article VII - Executive Departments
20 Section(s) 71(a)
21 Baltimore City Charter
22 (1996 Edition)

23 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
24 City Charter is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

25 **Baltimore City Charter**

26 **Article III. City Council**

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

Council Bill 12-0112

§ 1. Legislative Department; qualification and salary of members.

(b) *Qualifications.*

(1) [Members] EACH MEMBER of the City Council, except the President whose qualifications are provided for in Section 3, [shall] MUST be [citizens] A CITIZEN of the United States, at least 18 years old, [and] A registered [voters] VOTER of Baltimore City, AND A RESIDENT OF THE CITY FOR AT LEAST 1 YEAR IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE ELECTION AND DURING THE MEMBER’S TERM OF OFFICE.

(2) [They] EACH MEMBER ELECTED FROM A DISTRICT MUST also [shall] be [residents] A RESIDENT of the [districts the members have been chosen to represent] DISTRICT FROM WHICH THE MEMBER IS ELECTED for at least 1 year [next] IMMEDIATELY preceding [their] THE election, except as provided in Section 7(e), and during [their] THE MEMBER’S term of office, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 7(D).

§ 2. Members.

(b) *Number.*

The Council [shall consist] CONSISTS of [fourteen] 8 members, in addition to the President, TO BE ELECTED AS FOLLOWS:

(1) [There shall be fourteen districts with one] 1 member [elected] from each [district] OF 6 DISTRICTS; AND

(2) 2 MEMBERS FROM THE CITY AT LARGE.

(c) *Districts ELECTIONS.*

[The election of members shall be held by council districts, and no] NO person is entitled to vote for any DISTRICT member of the City Council [other than member for the] UNLESS THE PERSON IS A REGISTERED VOTER OF THAT district [in which the voter is registered].

§ 10. Procedures; Council officers.

(b) *Vice-President – In general.*

(1) [The City Council, by] BY a majority vote of its members, THE CITY COUNCIL shall appoint A COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT from [its] THE AT-LARGE members OF THE COUNCIL [a Vice-President,].

(2) [who in] IN the absence, sickness, or TEMPORARY disqualification of the President, THE VICE-PRESIDENT shall:

(I) preside at all [its] meetings OF THE COUNCIL[.]; AND

(II) [The Vice-President also shall be] SERVE AS an acting member of the Board of Estimates [in the absence, sickness or temporary disqualification of the President].

Council Bill 12-0112

1 (3) NO MEMBER MAY SERVE SIMULTANEOUSLY AS THE COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT AND AS
2 THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVE TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

3 **Article VII. Executive Departments**

4 *Department of Planning*

5 **§ 71. Department of Planning: Commission – Composition, appointment, terms.**

6 (a) *In general.*

7 (1) The Planning Commission [shall consist] CONSISTS of THE FOLLOWING [nine] 9
8 members[,]:

9 (I) [one of whom shall be] the Director of Public Works, ex officio[.];

10 (II) [one of whom shall be] the Mayor of [the] BALTIMORE City, ex officio[.];
11 [and]

12 (III) [one of whom shall be a] AN AT-LARGE member of the City Council [ex
13 officio], OTHER THAN THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT OR VICE-PRESIDENT, [who
14 shall be] TO BE elected by [that body,] THE CITY COUNCIL; and

15 (IV) [six of whom shall be] 6 MEMBERS appointed[, must be] BY THE MAYOR AND
16 confirmed[, and shall serve, pursuant to] BY THE CITY COUNCIL UNDER Article
17 IV, Section 6.

18 (2) THE 6 APPOINTED MEMBERS SERVE FOR A TERM OF 4 YEARS. The terms of [three] 3
19 appointed members [shall] expire on the last day of the year in which the term of the
20 Mayor begins [pursuant to Article IV, Section 1], and the [four year] terms of [three]
21 THE OTHER 3 appointed members [shall] expire [two] 2 years [thereafter] LATER.

22 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That this proposed amendment to the City
23 Charter be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of Baltimore City, for adoption or rejection,
24 in accordance with Article XI-A, § 5 of the Maryland Constitution, in the form specified by the
25 City Solicitor.