
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

December 3, 2019

Honorable President and Members
of the City Council of Baltimore
c/o Natwana Austin, Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 19-0162R- Informational Hearing - Baltimore's Fiscal Readiness for Kirwan

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0162R for form and legal sufficiency. This resolution is for the purpose of requesting the Director of the Baltimore City Department of Finance to brief the City Council on the City's fiscal readiness for any recommendations that the Kirwan Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education may put forward to alter public school funding formulas for Baltimore City, and requesting the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System to discuss the implications to City schools if the Kirwan Commission's recommendations are not passed or, if passed, are inadequate to ensure that Baltimore City public schools receive the State funding they deserve

In general, a City Council resolution is "an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body's official cognizance." *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 545 A.2d 1296, 1303 (Md. 1988) (quoting *McQuillin Mun. Corp.* § 15:2 (3rd Ed.)). Council Bill 18-0162R is an appropriate resolution to express the Council's concerns about the impact of the Kirwan Commission on the Baltimore City School System.

The Law Department approves Council Bill 19-0162R for form and legal sufficiency as it is a valid method of conveying City Council's desires regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Elena R. DiPietro
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre M. Davis, City Solicitor
Matthew Stegman, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Caylin Young, President's Legislative Liaison
Ashlea Brown, Special Solicitor
Victor Tervala, Chief Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Avery Aisenstark