

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**ORDINANCE \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Council Bill 08-0255**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Kraft, Cole, Henry, D'Adamo, Curran, Conaway, Clarke  
Introduced and read first time: December 4, 2008  
Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Council action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 2, 2009

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**AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING**

**Taxicabs and Other Common Carriers – Refusal to Pay Fare**

FOR the purpose of increasing the penalty for wilful refusal to pay proper charges for transport in a taxicab or other common carrier; and correcting, conforming, and clarifying related language.

BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments  
Article 19 - Police Ordinances  
Section(s) 52-2  
Baltimore City Code  
(Edition 2000)

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

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 19. Police Ordinances**

**Subtitle 52. Taxicabs**

**§ 52-1. Refusal to pay fare.**

(a) *Prohibited conduct*[; *penalties*].

[Any] IT IS UNLAWFUL FOR ANY person who engages and accepts transportation in a [public] taxicab or other vehicle operated as a common carrier[, under any conditions whereby a charge therefor is not paid in advance, and who] TO wilfully [refuses] REFUSE to pay the proper charges at the conclusion of [such] THE transportation[, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$50 for each such offense].

**EXPLANATION:** CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.  
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 (b) *Special arrangements allowed.*

2 [Nothing in this] THIS section [shall be construed to] DOES NOT prevent the owner or  
3 operator of [any such] THE TAXICAB OR OTHER common carrier from [making a special  
4 agreement] ARRANGING with the person who engaged and accepted transportation[,] for  
5 [the] subsequent payment of THE charges due.

6 (C) *PENALTIES.*

7 ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES A PROVISION OF THIS SECTION IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR  
8 AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF \$250 FOR EACH OFFENSE.

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

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

Certified as duly passed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,

this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

Approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

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Mayor, Baltimore City