

CITY OF BALTIMORE
STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

December 10, 2013

Honorable President and Members
of the City Council of Baltimore
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202



Attn: Karen Randle
Executive Secretary

Re: City Council Bill 13-0283 - Charter Amendment – Multi-year Collective Bargaining

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 12-0283 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill is in the form of a resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore. It proposes to amend the City Charter to expand the entities for which the City can negotiate multi-year collective bargaining agreements to include the City Union of Baltimore, Local 800.

The Law Department notes that the purpose paragraph states the bill provides for the funding of multi-year collective bargaining agreements. In fact, current Charter provisions provide for the funding of these agreements, although the provisions are reproduced in Council Bill 13-0283 as Article VI, Section 12(b)(2). Nonetheless, this statement in the purpose paragraph does not present a legal problem requiring amendment.

Section 5 of Article XI-A establishes that amendments to the City Charter are proposed by a resolution of the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore, which must be submitted and approved by City voters. Since Council Bill 13-0283 proposes an amendment to the City Charter in the correct legal form and since there is no legal impediment, the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Victor K. Tervala
Assistant Solicitor

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor
Hillary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor
Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor