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To: The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, The Honorable Jack Young  
and Members of the City Council.

From: Armstead B. Crawley Jones Sr.  
Election Director III

Subject: City Council Bill 11-0642

Date: February 9, 2011

This is the Baltimore City Board of Elections response to proposed City Council Bill 11-0642 and its impact.

- The proposed City Councilmanic redistricting as presented in City Council Bill 11-0642 will affect 37,597 voters as of today's date. This number represents over 10 percent of Baltimore City's registered voters that will have to be notified of a change in their Councilmanic District.
- The Board of Elections will have to notify each voter affected by the Council District change and educate the voters concerning their new council district. We will have to notify each voter of the change via new voter's cards and other venues. This will have a fiscal impact on the Board of Elections budget. This would consist of preparing, printing and postage for each voter's card. If the voter's cards are returned undeliverable the Election Board staff will have to do thousands of verification mailings and may cause staff to work overtime to complete this process. This is an additional fiscal impact as well.
- In addition after the State and Federal Government complete their redistricting we will have to revisit the Council District redistricting and make more changes based on precinct and ward lines that are redrawn during the State and Federal redistricting. This will have a financial impact based upon the number of changes which will have to be made. All fiscal impacts mentioned in bullet point number one will also have an impact on this bullet point as well.

*Comments*

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- The proposed changes in the Councilmanic districts combined with the impact of early voting will require extensive outreach and coordination to educate voters of these changes. The Board of Elections suggests that the Mayor and City Council provide additional funding to the Baltimore City Board of Elections budget to do an enhanced voter outreach to educate and notify the voters of the changes in their Councilmanic district.