

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

August 7, 2009

Madam 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

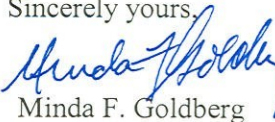
Re: City Council Bill No. 09-0133R– Unemployment Benefits-Debit  
Cards

Dear President and City Council Members:

You have requested the advice of the Law Department regarding City Council Bill 09-0133R. City Council Bill 0133R is for the purpose of procuring a report from the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation on the efficacy of disbursing unemployment benefits to new recipients through prepaid debit cards, in particular the availability of ATM fee-free transactions to Baltimore City residents.

A resolution of the City Council is typically used to express an opinion of the Council on matters of concern to the City or on policy matters that affect the City or to request action on matters that are outside of the realm of the City Council's power to act. McQuillin, Municipal Corporations, Sections, 15.01 et seq. As such, City Council Bill 0133R is an appropriate manner in which to express the City Council's desire to determine whether the pre-paid debit cards issued to new recipients of unemployment benefits afford Baltimore City residents the intended ease of fee-free access to the benefits that the pre-paid debit cards were intended to provide.

Accordingly, the Law Department approves the City Council Bill 09-0133R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,  
  
Minda F. Goldberg  
Chief City Solicitor

cc: The Honorable Belinda Conaway  
Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison, Mayor's Office  
George A. Nilson, City Solicitor  
Elena Dipietro  
Hilary B, Ruley  
Ashlea Brown

