


F R O M	Name & Title	Mary Beth Haller, Interim Commissioner of Health	Health Department AGENCY REPORT	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202		
	Subject/ Position	24-0559 – Francis Scott Key Bridge - Actions and Remedies Favorable		

To: President and Members
of the City Council
c/o 409 City Hall

August 22, 2024

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review Council Bill 24-0559, entitled “Francis Scott Key Bridge - Actions and Remedies.” Per the bill’s purpose statement, this ordinance would “[exercise] the City’s authority granted under City Charter, Article II, §§ (10) {“Harbor, docks, and wharves”} and (47) {“General welfare”} to:

- (1) provide for the preservation of the navigation of the Patapsco River and its tributaries;
- (2) prevent injury to navigation or health; and
- (3) maintain the peace, good government, and health and welfare of the City of Baltimore, by establishing that in a cause of action arising out of the collision between a ship, the M/V Dali, and the Francis Scott Key Bridge on March 26, 2024, the City of Baltimore shall be entitled to recover for economic loss.”

Further, the ordinance would “[provide the City Solicitor with the authority to establish certain rules and regulations to carry out the provisions of this Ordinance.”

Based on the intent of the legislation, BCHD respectfully requests a favorable report. The agency defers to the Law Department regarding the City’s efforts to recover any losses resulting from the Key Bridge incident.