

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

August 11, 2008

Honorable President and Members  
of the City Council of Baltimore  
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 08-0054R {Baltimore City Police Department – Legal Expenses}

Dear Madame President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 08-0054R for form and legal sufficiency. This resolution would request the Director of Finance to report to the City Council on the total amount of City funds used in the last two fiscal years for legal and associated services to defend employees of the Police Department against charges brought against individual officers, the Police Department, or the City by civilians or departmental personnel.

In general, a City Council resolution is “an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body’s official cognizance.” *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 545 A.2d 1296, 1303 (Md. 1988) (quoting *McQuillin Mun. Corp.* § 15:2 (3<sup>rd</sup> Ed.)). Council Bill 08-0054R is an appropriate resolution to express the Council’s request to the Director of Finance to report to the Council on the amount of City funds used for legal services to defend employees of the Police Department.

The Law Department approves Council Bill 08-0054R for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deepa Bhattacharyya".

Deepa Bhattacharyya  
Assistant Solicitor

cc: The Honorable Bernard C. “Jack” Young  
Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison, Mayor’s Office  
George Nilson, City Solicitor  
Elena R. DiPietro, Assistant Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor  
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor

