

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE Mayor

FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III Police Commissioner

June 15, 2010

TO:

The Honorable President and Members

of the Baltimore City Council

Room 400 City Hall Attn. Karen Randle

FROM:

James H. Green, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel

Baltimore Police Department

RE:

City Council Bill No.10-0506-Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory

Commission-Establishment

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed City Council Bill No.10-0506-Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission-Establishment and supports its passage. This legislation proposes to establish the Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission, establish the composition and duties of the Commission, and work towards the eradication of animal abuse in Baltimore.

Last year, in response to a brutal attack on an animal and resulting large public outcry and attention to this crime, Baltimore created the Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Task Force and charged them with making recommendations around eradicating animal abuse, increasing awareness of laws, and developing legislation to protect animals and prosecute abusers. In their January 5, 2010 Interim Report, the Task Force presented a number of recommendations in this area. Among the recommendations was the formation of Mayor's Anti-Abuse Advisory Commission to ensure that the works of the Task Force continue beyond its one-year term and also that it also expand in its composition. These issues remain very important to the City and it is vital that the Task Force continue the work that has begun in Baltimore over the last year. The establishment of the Commission and the charge contained within this legislation work towards this end and the BPD stands willing to continue to assist in the City's collective efforts in this area. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation and the BPD welcomes its continued participation.

Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison cc:

