

CITY OF BALTIMORE
RESOLUTION 20 . 24
Council Bill 19-0381
(Charter Amendment)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Henry, Pinkett, Clarke, Scott, Ex Officio President
Middleton, Councilmembers Costello, Bullock, Cohen, Dorsey, Schleifer, Stokes, Sneed,
Reisinger

Introduced and read first time: April 29, 2019

Assigned to: Equity and Structure Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: May 11, 2020

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CONCERNING

Charter Amendment – Removal of Elected Officials

1
2 FOR the purpose of providing for the removal from office by the City Council of certain City
3 elected officials under certain circumstances; expanding the potential individuals or entities
4 entitled to prefer charges for consideration of removal from office; conforming and clarifying
5 related provisions; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for
6 adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing to add

8 Article III - City Council
9 Section 2(d)
10 Baltimore City Charter
11 (1996 Edition)

12 BY proposing to amend

13 Article III - City Council
14 Sections 3(b) and 10(d)
15 Baltimore City Charter
16 (1996 Edition)

17 BY proposing to amend

18 Article IV - Mayor
19 Section 2
20 Baltimore City Charter
21 (1996 Edition)

22 BY proposing to amend

23 Article V - Comptroller
24 Section 2
25 Baltimore City Charter
26 (1996 Edition)

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken by amendment.

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1 BY AT LEAST 20% OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS IN BALTIMORE CITY, OR BY THE INSPECTOR
2 GENERAL, AND AFTER NOTICE OF THOSE CHARGES AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD BY
3 THE CITY COUNCIL ARE GIVEN TO THE MAYOR.

4 (B) [(a)] *Vacancy.*

5 In case of vacancy in the office of the Mayor by death, resignation, REMOVAL, or
6 permanent disqualification, the President of the City Council shall be Mayor for the
7 remainder of the term for which the Mayor was elected.

8 (C) [(b)] *Absence.*

9 In case of, and during, sickness, temporary disqualification or necessary absence of the
10 Mayor, the President of the City Council shall be ex officio Mayor of the City.

11 **Article V. Comptroller**

12 **§ 2. Removal; Vacancy.**

13 (A) *REMOVAL.*

14 The City Council by a [majority] THREE-FOURTHS vote of its members may remove the
15 Comptroller from office for incompetency, MISCONDUCT IN OFFICE, wilful neglect of duty,
16 or FELONY OR misdemeanor in office, [upon] ON charges preferred by the Mayor, BY THE
17 CITY COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE INVESTIGATIONS, A VERIFIED PETITION
18 SIGNED BY AT LEAST 20% OF THE QUALIFIED VOTERS IN BALTIMORE CITY, OR BY THE
19 INSPECTOR GENERAL, and after notice of [such] THOSE charges and an opportunity to be
20 heard by the City Council are given to the Comptroller.

21 (B) *VACANCY.*

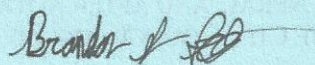
22 In the event of the death, resignation, or removal from office of the Comptroller, a
23 successor, to fill out the unexpired term, shall be elected by the City Council by a
24 majority vote of its members.

25 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the City Council shall amend the Rules of
26 the City Council of Baltimore to provide for the conduct and procedures of the notice and
27 hearings required for removal of an elected official under this proposed amendment.

28 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this proposed amendment to the City
29 Charter be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of Baltimore City, for adoption or rejection,
30 in accordance with Article XI-A, § 5 of the Maryland Constitution, in the form specified by the
31 City Solicitor.

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Certified as duly passed this 18 day of May, 2020



President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to His Honor, the Mayor,

this 18 day of May, 2020



Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20____

Pursuant to Baltimore City Charter, Article IV, section 5 (c) this bill
went into Law without the Mayor's signature on July 13, 2020.
Mayor, Baltimore City

Approved for Form and Legal Sufficiency
this day of May, 2020.
This Bill is Not Approved by Law

Chief Solicitor