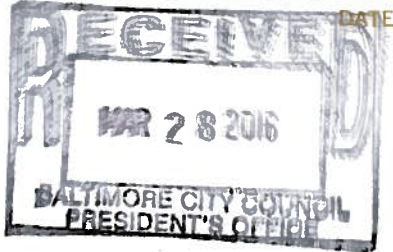


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Henry Raymond, Director <i>HR</i>	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Finance Room 454, City Hall (396-4940)		
	SUBJECT	<b>City Council Bill 16-0616 – Hookah Lounges</b>		

**TO**

Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
C/O Natawna B. Austin  
Room 409, City Hall



March 28, 2016

This CCB 16-0616 – Hookah Lounges is for the purpose of authorizing hookah lounges as conditional uses (ordinance required) in certain zoning districts; defining certain terms; specifying certain considerations for these uses; excepting hookah lounges from the definition of an after-hours establishment; excepting hookah lounges from the City’s indoor smoking restrictions, subject to certain conditions; repealing two other, preempted and no-longer valid, exceptions to the City’s indoor smoking restrictions; excepting properly zoned hookah lounges from having to obtain a late-night operations license; and generally relating to the zoning and operation of hookah lounges.

**Analysis**

This bill would exempt hookah bars from the definition of after-hours establishments and authorize them as conditional uses in certain zoning districts while exempting them from the City’s indoor smoking restrictions and late-night license requirements. It is unlikely that any of these actions will have any significant effect on the City’s finances.

**Fiscal Impact**

The Department of Finance does not anticipate this legislation having any direct fiscal impact on the City of Baltimore. However, given the significant public health and safety concerns raised by the Baltimore City Health Department, the Fire Department, the Department of Planning and the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Finance opposes CCB 16-0616.

CC: William Voorhees  
Natawna Austin

*Natawna*