



SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III
Police Commissioner

February 22, 2009

TO: The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400 City Hall
Attn. Karen Randle

FROM: James H. Green, ^{JHG} Deputy Legal Counsel
Baltimore Police Department

RE: City Council Bill No. 08-0253-Soliciting

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed City Council Bill No. 08-0253-Soliciting which provides clarifying language and increased penalties to Article 19 § 50-56-Obstructing Passage and repeals obsolete or unnecessary provisions of Article 19-Police Ordinances.

Specifically, the bill clarifies language surrounding the solicitation of persons who on a street or sidewalk obstruct or otherwise interfere with a person's free passage for the purpose of inducing or compelling them to purchase something or to make a donation and increases the penalty for violating the section. Additionally, the bill repeals Article 19 § 50-57 (In Front of Store-Soliciting Business) and Article 19 § 50-58 (In Front of Store-Enticing Away).

The BPD supports these changes. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

cc: Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Police Commissioner, BPD
Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison

c/o 242 W. 29th Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21211

