



February 9, 2012

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



Re: City Council Bill 12-0020 -- Veterans Commission -- Member  
Qualification

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 12-0020 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would require that one of the four members appointed by the City Council President to the Baltimore City Veterans Commission be a member of the City Council. It further provides that the appointed City Council member need not be a veteran.

The bill requires amendment in several areas:

- (1) Line 6 of page 1 states that Article 12 of the City Code is amended by the bill. This is incorrect. The bill amends Article 1, as is correctly stated in line 13.
- (2) The current ordinance permits the President of the City Council to appoint four members to the Veterans Commission. This provision conflicts with the City Charter that prohibits anyone but the Mayor from appointing members to Boards and Commissions. See City Charter, Article IV, § 6(g). An amendment to the current ordinance is needed to bring its provisions into compliance with the Charter. See attachment of suggested language.
- (3) To comply with the amendment described in (2) above, Line 6 of page 2 should be amended to say that the City Council President recommends appointments. See attachment of suggested language.
- (4) Given the above amendments, the purpose paragraph in lines 3 & 4 on page 1 will need amendment. See attachment of suggested language.

F/A

Page 2: Council Bill 12-0020

If the above amendments are adopted, the Law Department will approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,



Victor K. Tervala

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor  
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor  
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 12-0020  
Law Department – Suggested Amendments**

Page 1, Line 3, insert the word "RECOMMENDED" after the word "appointments."

Page 1, Line 6, strike the number "12" and substitute the number "1"

Page 1, line 19, strike the phrase "the following 11 members" and insert "11 MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE MAYOR IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE IV, § 6 OF THE CITY CHARTER. THE MEMBERSHIP SHALL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:"

Page 1, line 20 -21, strike in their entirety

Page 1, line 22, strike "(2)" and renumber as "(1)" and strike the word "appointed" and insert the word "RECOMMENDED"

Page 2, line 1, strike "(3)" and renumber as "(2)"

Page 2, line 3, strike "(4)" and renumber as "(3)"

Page 2, line 6, strike the word "appointed" and substitute the word "RECOMMENDED" and after the word "President" and before the comma, add the phrase "FOR APPOINTMENT"