

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

September 19, 2012

The Honorable President and
Members of the Baltimore
City Council
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary
409 City Hall
Baltimore, MD 21202

RE: City Council Bill No. 12-0064— Burglar Alarms – No Fees for User
Registrations

Dear President and Members

You have requested the advice of the Law Department regarding City Council Bill 12-0064. City Council Bill 12-0094 amends the Baltimore City Code, Art. 19, Subtitle 8 to remove the registration fees for burglar alarm users and reduces certain fines for false alarm violations.

The City has the general police and welfare powers to legislate in this area. Under the Baltimore City Charter, Art. II, §§ 27 and 47, “Baltimore City has all the power commonly known as the Police Power to the same extent as the State has or could exercise that power within the limits of Baltimore City” and “to pass any ordinance, not inconsistent with the provisions of this Charter or the laws of the State, which it may deem proper in the exercise of any of the powers, either express or implied, enumerated in this Charter, as well as any ordinance as it may deem proper in maintaining the peace, good government, health and welfare of Baltimore City.”

The power being exercised by the City Council in City Council Bill 12-0064 is consistent with its authority. The Law Department therefore approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Elena R. DiPietro

Elena R. DiPietro
Chief Solicitor



cc: George A. Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor
Victor Tervalo, Assistant Solicitor