



FROM	NAME & TITLE	Laura Larsen, Budget Director 	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 22-0275—Ethics – Conforming Changes		

DATE:

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400

August 13, 2023

Position: Does Not Oppose

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 22-0275, Ethics – Conforming Changes, the purpose of which is to conform the City’s ethics law with the State law.

Background

This legislation was introduced on behalf of the Board of Ethics. Baltimore City is required to have similar provisions as the State ethics law pertaining to conflicts of interest and financial disclosure requirements. This legislation amends the City’s law to conform with the State’s in the following ways:

- Prohibiting disclosure of a minor child’s employment, unless the employer is regulated by the filer’s agency or has contract(s) that total more than \$10,000 with the agency.
- Prohibiting City employees and officials from soliciting gifts regardless of the potential donor’s status.
- Expanding the types of business entities whose interests need to be reported by the filer.
- Requiring all names associated with a business entity be reported.
- Requiring disclosure of financial or contractual relationships with University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS), State or local governmental entities, and State or local quasi-governmental entities.
- Defining a “quasi-governmental entity”.
- Requiring the Ethics Board to maintain confidentiality for disclosure of information related to UMMS, a governmental entity, and a quasi-governmental entity.
- Prohibiting retaliation against someone for reporting or participating in a potential ethics investigation.
- Prohibiting former public servants from disclosing confidential information acquired during City employment.

Fiscal Impact

The Department of Finance anticipates minimal to no fiscal impact from this legislation.

Conclusion

This legislation would conform the City’s ethics law with the State law, as required by State law.

For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 23-0384.

cc: Michael Moiseyev
Nina Themelis