CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

June 23, 2011

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 10-0501 – City Resident Hiring Preference Work Group

You have requested the advice of the Law Department regarding City Council Bill 10-0501. City Council Bill 501 is a resolution of the Mayor and City Council that proposes to call together City agency representatives and stakeholders outside of City government to draft an ordinance and/or rules and regulations of the Board of Estimates to provide for a requirement modeled after Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 which would give contracting preferences to companies that hire low income City residents. The work group will provide regular updates to the City Council.

The City Council may create the proposed work group through the use of a resolution of the Mayor and City Council. The proposed members of the work group however are not subject to the laws regarding members of boards and commissions as they are not appointed pursuant to Art. IV, Section 6 of the Charter. Similarly, the City Council could not compel attendance at the work group meetings. In addition, any proposals drafted by the work group would be advisory only and neither the Mayor, the City Council or the Board of Estimates would be required to adopt such proposals.

Subject to the limitations discussed above, the Law Department approves the City Council Bill 10-0501 for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Elena R. DiPietro

Elena R. Dilietro

Chief Solicitor

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