


TJA

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|---|--|---|
| FROM | NAME & TITLE | THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR | CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO |  |
| | AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS | DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 417 E. FAYETTE STREET, 8 TH FLOOR | | |
| | SUBJECT | CCB #10-0445/ PUBLIC ETHICS LAW – ETHICS BOARD COMPOSITION, TENURE, ETC. | | |

TO

The Honorable President and
 Members of the City Council
 City Hall, Room 400
 100 N. Holliday Street



DATE: February 16, 2010

The Department of Planning has received City Council Bill #10-0445 for review. This legislation is “For the purpose of reconstituting the Baltimore City Board of Ethics; providing for the Board’s composition and for the qualifications, tenure, and removal of its members; requiring the Board to submit certain annual and special reports; expressly including certain entities within the purview of the Public Ethics Law; expanding the requirements for mandatory ethics training to encompass certain boards, commissions, and other multi-member entities; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to ethics in the public sector.”

This bill amends Article 8 – Ethics of the Baltimore City Code. In Subtitle 2 – Definitions; General Provisions, the Local Development Council, South Baltimore Video Lottery Terminal and the Pimlico Community Development Authority are added as listed agencies and boards.

Amendments to Subtitle 3 – Administration, include the following: In §3-2 the composition of the Ethics Board is changed and the qualifications are modified. In §3-3 the terms of an appointed member is for five years, on a staggered basis, and does not end with the Mayor’s term. Removal procedures are clarified to be for neglect, misconduct, disability or a violation of the article, and include an opportunity for a reply to the charges. In §3-4, the Ethics Board elects its own Chair, establishes a one year term, and provides that the Chair may be reelected. §3-20 is clarified in meaning. A new §3-26 is added to require the Ethics Board to submit an annual report to the Mayor and City Council.

Amendments to Subtitle 7 – Financial Disclosure, include the following: In §7-8, the Finance Board, the Local Development Council, South Baltimore Video Lottery Terminal and the Pimlico Community Development Authority are added as entities required to file Financial Disclosure statements.

Finally, the bill provides for staggered term expirations for the initial Ethics Board appointees from one to five years, so that each subsequent appointee may serve a five year term and no more than one member is expected to be replaced each year.

F

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council

Page 2

Re: CCB #10-0445/ Public Ethics Law –
Ethics Board Composition, Tenure, Etc.

The Department of Planning supports CCB #10-0445, and recommends that it be passed by the City Council. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Wolde Ararsa, Land Use and Urban Design Division Chief at 410-396-4488.

TJS/ewt

cc: Mr. Andrew Frank, Deputy Mayor
Ms. Sophie Dagenais, Chief of Staff
Ms. Angela Gibson, Mayor's Office
The Honorable Bill Henry, Council Rep. for the Planning Commission
Mr. Bill Cunningham, Chair of the Planning Commission
Ms. Nikol Nabors-Jackson, DHCD
Mr. Larry Greene, Office of Council Services