

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

March 17, 2016

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

Re: City Council Bill 15-0471- Charter Amendment – Multi-Member Council
Districts

Dear President and City Council Members:

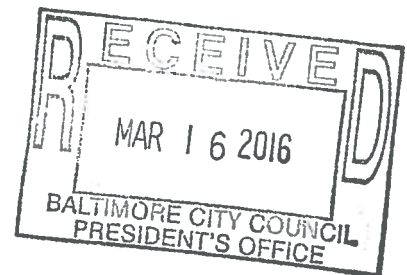
The Law Department has been asked to review City Council Bill 15-0471 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill amends the City Charter. It reduces the number of Councilmembers from 14 members to 12 members and reduces the number of council districts from 14 to four. The bill requires that three members be elected from each of the four districts. Lastly, the bill submits the amendment to City voters for adoption or rejection.

The substance of the bill presents no legal impediments.

Under Article XI-A, Section 5 of the Maryland Constitution, a resolution of the Mayor and City Council, such as City Council Bill 15-0471, is an appropriate method of initiating an amendment to the Baltimore City Charter. The Law Department, therefore, approves the resolution for form and legal sufficiency as drafted.

Sincerely yours,

Victor K. Tervalo
Chief Solicitor



cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief, Opinions & Advice
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor