

Andrew Klein

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	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #08-0259

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



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

DATE:
January 5, 2009

Attention: Ms. Karen Randle

City Council Bill 08-0259 requires that every entrance to a city building must be monitored at all times by an adequately supervised metal detector. Currently, the City has supervised detectors at all buildings where they are deemed necessary for public safety.

The Department of Finance, in cooperation with the Department of Public Works has determined that there are approximately 500 city buildings, including schools that would require the installation of a supervised metal detector. Moreover, many of these buildings have multiple entrances, which would require multiple teams of trained personnel to operate these detectors. The bill also requires that every entrance must be monitored at all times. Many of these buildings are open past normal business hours and on weekends.

The Department of Finance has attempted to calculate the cost of maintaining an average of two teams per location along with the capital cost of purchasing more than 1,000 metal detectors. The capital cost is estimated to be approximately \$5.0 million and the operating cost of staffing two detectors per building is approximately \$71,000 per year. In order to staff 500 buildings the cost would be approximately \$35.5 million.

Because of the excessive cost of this program, the Department of Finance recommends against the approval of this legislation.

Cc: Edward J. Gallagher
Angela Gibson

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