



BALTIMORE HOUSING

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO
Executive Director, HA/BC
Commissioner, HCD

MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Paul T. Graziano, Commissioner

Date: August 6, 2015

Re: **City Council Bill 15-0504 - Collection of Taxes, Fees, etc. – Warning of Lien and Potential Foreclosure**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 15-0504 for the purpose of requiring certain City bills, invoices, and other statements to contain a warning of the potential consequences of a failure to pay.

If enacted, this bill would require HCD to modify certain code enforcement documents to include a warning that provides information on possible consequences for not paying the fees assessed as a result of not meeting Building, Fire and Related Code requirements. However, the property would only be subject to a tax sale if the property also had liens for other unpaid fees such as taxes and/or water.

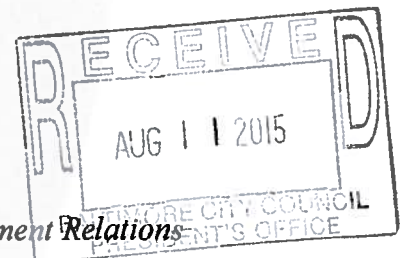
Given that the passage of legislation would require the modification of some documents, we would encourage the City Council to consider an amendment that would provide a minimum of 90 days after enactment before the Ordinance takes effect.

We have reviewed and support the purposed amendment from the Department of Law to correct the wording of the proposed warning statement to make it consistent with the lien process.

The Department of Housing and Community Development has no objection to the passage of City Council Bill 15-0502.

PTG:sd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Mr. Colin Tarbert, *Deputy Mayor*



No objection

