


<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Jason Perkins-Cohen, Director <i>[Signature]</i>	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Mayor's Office of Employment Development 417 E. Fayette Street, Suite 468		
	SUBJECT	<b>City Council Bill 17-0018 – Labor and Employment – City Minimum Wage</b>		

**TO**

The Honorable President and Members of the City Council

DATE:  
February 24, 2017

Council Bill 17-0018 proposes to set Baltimore City's minimum wage rate from years 2019 – 2023 and onward, sets the terms and qualifications for Wage Commission members, establishes a system to ensure tipped employees receive a minimum wage, creates a requirement for multilingual posters and defines methods of filing complaints with, investigations by, and restitutions from the Wage Commission. Its intent is to raise the wages of city residents to a level that better meets the standard of living costs for Baltimore, while ensuring future wages track with adjustments in the Consumer Price Index.

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development (MOED) takes no position on City Council Bill 17-0018. The agency recognizes that it is imperative that Baltimore City residents are able to earn wages that can allow them to provide for themselves and their families. We work actively to provide city residents quality employment and training opportunities that will allow them to earn wages comparable or greater than the wage rates described in this bill, because we understand the cost of housing, food, medical care, transportation, and other needs have grown much quicker than wages have over the past several decades.

We believe in the merits of this bill, to increase city residents' standard of living, provide a means of grievance for those who have been underpaid, and support Baltimore's economy. We also appreciate that this bill exempts participants in City-sponsored youth jobs programs (including YouthWorks and Hire One Youth) but take no position on the specific provisions in City Council Bill 17-0018.

cc: Kyron Banks  
James Smith

*No position*

