

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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

November 2, 2015

Honorable President and Members
of the City Council of Baltimore
c/o Natwana Austin, Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

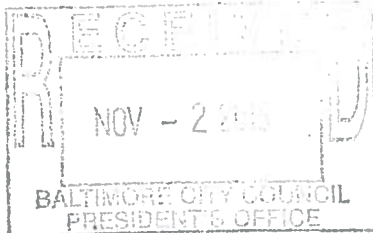
Re: City Council Bill 15-0253R- Request for State Action – Strengthening the Civilian Review Board

Dear Madame President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 15-0253R for form and legal sufficiency. This resolution is for the purpose of calling on the Baltimore City Delegation to the Maryland General Assembly to introduce, and secure enactment of, legislation authorizing the Mayor and City Council to strengthen the Baltimore City Police Department's Civilian Review Board.

In general, a City Council resolution is "an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body's official cognizance." *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 545 A.2d 1296, 1303 (Md. 1988) (quoting *McQuillin Mun. Corp.* § 15:2 (3rd Ed.)). Council Bill 15-0253R is an appropriate resolution to express the Council's concerns about this particular situation.

The Law Department approves Council Bill 15-253R for form and legal sufficiency as it is a valid method of conveying City Council's views on this matter to the General Assembly.



Sincerely,

Elena R. DiPietro
Chief Solicitor

cc: Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison, Mayor's Office
George Nilson, City Solicitor
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Victor Tervalo, Chief Solicitor
Jennifer Landis, Assistant Solicitor

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