



# BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



**Brandon M. Scott**  
Mayor

**Richard J. Worley**  
Police Commissioner

March 12, 2024

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
Room 400, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

**RE: City Council Bill #22-0225**  
**Vacant Structures—Nuisance Abatement—Penalty**

Dear Council President Mosby and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 22-0225 for the purpose of increasing a penalty for failing to obey a nuisance abatement order on a certain type of property generally relating to vacant structures.

Vacant Structures are defined in the Baltimore City Building Code and excludes accessory structures such as garage, sheds, and storage space. City Council Bill #22-0225 provides a list of increasing penalties and fees for infractions, further destruction, and failure to obey the order.

The BPD recognizes the dangers that unkempt vacant structures pose for communities and the role that these properties play in overall blight in a neighborhood.

The BPD supports City Council Bill 22-0225. We look forward to working with additional city agencies to tackle this issue. Thank you for allowing us to comment on this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

Erin Murphy, Esq.  
Director of Government Affairs

cc: Natwana Austin, Executive Secretary of the Baltimore City Council  
Nina Themelis, Director of Mayor's Office of Government Affairs  
Andrew Smullian, BPD Deputy Chief of Staff