

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 23-0450  
(First Reader)**

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Introduced by: President Mosby and Councilmembers Middleton, Costello, Conway, Glover, and Stokes

Introduced and read first time: November 6, 2023

Assigned to: Rules and Legislative Oversight Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department Finance, Office of the Mayor, Office of Equity and Civil Rights

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL concerning

2 **Charter Amendment – Approval or Veto of Legislation**

3 FOR the purpose of amending the period during which the Mayor shall return an ordinance or  
4 resolution to the Council if the Mayor does not approve or the ordinance or resolution;  
5 permitting the City Council to override a Mayoral veto at a regular or special meeting of the  
6 City Council; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption  
7 or rejection.

8 BY proposing to amend

9 Article IV - Mayor  
10 Section 5(b)  
11 Baltimore City Charter  
12 (1996 Edition)

13 **SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
14 City Charter is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

15 **Baltimore City Charter**

16 **Article IV. Mayor**

17 **§ 5. Approval or veto of legislation.**

18 (b) *Veto; Return to Council.*

19 (1) If the Mayor does not approve of an ordinance or resolution passed by the City  
20 Council, the Mayor shall return it with written objections to the City Council within  
21 [three] TWO actual regular meetings, not more than one of which shall occur in any  
22 one calendar week, of the City Council after the delivery of the ordinance or  
23 resolution to the Mayor.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 (2) On receipt, the Mayor’s objections shall be read promptly to the Council AT A  
2 REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING and entered on its Journal. [The Council may proceed  
3 to reconsider and vote on the ordinance or resolution:]

4 [(i) after 5 calendar days from when the Mayor’s objections have been read to the  
5 Council; and]

6 [(ii) either:]

7 [(A) within 20 calendar days from when the Mayor's objections have been  
8 read to the Council; or]

9 [(B) if no regular meeting is held during that 20-day period, at the first  
10 regular meeting that is scheduled after that 20-day period.]

11 (3) THE COUNCIL MAY RECONSIDER AND VOTE ON THE ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION AT A  
12 REGULAR OR SPECIAL MEETING:

13 (I) AT LEAST 5 CALENDAR DAYS AFTER THE MAYOR’S OBJECTIONS HAVE BEEN  
14 READ TO THE COUNCIL; AND

15 (II) NO MORE THAN 20 CALENDAR DAYS FROM WHEN THE MAYOR’S OBJECTIONS  
16 HAVE BEEN READ TO THE COUNCIL.

17 (4) [(3)] Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of this subsection, no vetoed ordinance or  
18 resolution may be reconsidered by a City Council that has been newly-elected and  
19 sworn since the passage of the vetoed ordinance or resolution.

20 (5)[(4)] If the ordinance or resolution, after reconsideration, is again passed by the City  
21 Council by a vote of two-thirds of its members, it becomes an ordinance or resolution  
22 of the City. In these cases, after the reconsideration, the votes on the question of the  
23 passage of the ordinance or resolution over the veto of the Mayor shall be determined  
24 by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against passage of the  
25 ordinance or resolution over the veto of the Mayor shall be entered on the Journal of  
26 the City Council.

27 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this proposed amendment to the City  
28 Charter be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of Baltimore City, for adoption or rejection,  
29 in accordance with Article XI-A, § 5 of the Maryland Constitution, in the form specified by the  
30 City Solicitor.