



**BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SAFETY AND
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Mission Statement

On behalf of the Citizens of Baltimore City, the Public Safety and Government Operations will be responsible for matters concerning public safety, including, but not limited to; emergency preparedness, police services, fire/EMS, and the executive, administrative, and operational functions of the city government and libraries.

**The Honorable Mark Conway
Chairman**

PUBLIC HEARING

**Wednesday, September 1, 2021
1:00 PM**

**Council Bill: 21-0088
Study and Report –
Integrated Services Model**



BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Public Safety and Government Operations

Bill 21-0088

Study and Report – Integrated Services Model

Sponsor: Councilwoman Odette Ramos

Introduced: May 17, 2021

Purpose:

For the purpose of requiring that the Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success, in consultation with partner agencies and organization, submit a report to the Mayor and City Council regarding the adjustment of the service delivery system so that when families enter 1 part of the system, they can access all parts of the system, including older adult’s services and the Homeowner’s Tax Credit; and providing for a special effective date.

Effective: Date of enactment.

Agency Reports

Law Department	
Office of Children and Family Success	
Baltimore City Administrator	
Department of Finance	

Analysis

Background

Within the Baltimore City Health Department, the Division of Aging and Care Services is responsible for administering programs and services for older adults, adults with disabilities, and their families. This division receives advice from the Commission on Aging and Retirement Education on the most pressing issues concerning that generation of adult residents.

Maryland Access Point

The Division of Aging and Care Services manages the Maryland Access Point “one-stop-shop” for Baltimore City. With a single call, older adults can learn about and apply for resources available to them. Individuals who are eligible to participate in this program receive information and assistance with a wide range of services that includes screening for federal and state benefits, assisted living support, legal aid, Medicare enrollment, caregiver support, meals, medication management, transportation, and dealing with issues like Alzheimer’s dementia, and chronic diseases.

Baltimore’s Promise

The mission of Baltimore’s Promise is to coordinate strategy, identify quality programs, support alignment activities, establish shared measures for meaningful results, build public will, and advance policy on behalf of Baltimore City’s youth. Today, hundreds of stakeholders – including the school district, higher education institutions, foundations, businesses, nonprofits, community leaders, adult residents, and youth and young adults – are engaged to build a broad basis of support for our commitment to work together to benefit our children.

Additional Information

Information Source(s):

Analysis by: Samuel Johnson
Analysis Date: August 31, 2021

Direct Inquiries to: (410) 396-1091

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 21-0088
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Ramos

Introduced and read first time: May 17, 2021

Assigned to: Public Safety and Government Operations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Finance,
Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success, City Administrator

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Study and Report – Integrated Services Model**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that the Mayor's Office of Children and Family Success, in
4 consultation with partner agencies and organization, submit a report to the Mayor and City
5 Council regarding the adjustment of the service delivery system so that when families enter 1
6 part of the system, they can access all parts of the system, including older adults services and
7 the Homeowner's Tax Credit; and providing for a special effective date.

8 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That:**

9 (a) No later than 120 days after the enactment of this Ordinance, the Mayor's Office of
10 Children and Family Success submit a report, in consultation with Baltimore's
11 Promise, Baltimore City Department of Housing and Community Development,
12 Housing Authority of Baltimore City, Baltimore City Community Action Partnership,
13 Family League of Baltimore City, Office of Employment Development, Baltimore
14 City Public School System, the Baltimore City Administrator, Mayor's Office of
15 Homeless Services, Baltimore City Department of Health, and other relevant agencies
16 setting forth a comprehensive approach to ensure that families have access to the
17 services they need, including the Homeowner's Property Tax Credit and Renter's Tax
18 Credits, as outlined below.

19 (b) The report shall include:

20 (i) a description of Baltimore's Promise, 2-Generation Approach model, and any
21 relevant model for ensuring children have pathways to success which includes
22 ensuring that all services the families are eligible for are provided to them;

23 (ii) a discussion of the challenges agencies face trying to ensure that older adults are
24 able to access services like HUBS and the Homeowner's Tax Credit;

25 (iii) an outline describing the how the integration of older adults into the Baltimore's
26 Promise model or a new model of service integration can be operationalized to
27 ensure that older adults and every family eligible for the Homeowner's Tax Credit
28 and Renter's Tax Credit can access that important service;

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

Council Bill 21-0088

1 (iv) a discussion of all entry points through which residents request services that will
2 be the entry point for the integrated services approach – including BCPSS,
3 Community Action Partnership, and rental assistance applications;

4 (v) agreements the Office has in place with partners which describe how the partners
5 will assist the Office with referrals. For example, an agreement between the
6 Office and a partner that states the partner will assist individuals the Office has
7 referred who need assistance getting their homes in their own names so that the
8 individuals can qualify for the services the Office provides;

9 (vi) details regarding how the integrated data model will function, or how data will be
10 collected and shared among the agencies and partners, which is critical to an
11 integrated services model approach;

12 (vii) the implementation costs for the integrated services model and the integrated
13 data model; and

14 (viii) should it be fully funded, the timeline for implementation of this approach.

15 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the date it is
16 enacted.

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND
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AGENCY REPORTS

CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
JAMES L. SHEA, CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

August 23, 2021

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 21-0088 – Integrated Services Model

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0088 for form and legal sufficiency. It would require a report from the Mayor’s Office of Children and Family Success concerning several topics.

Enacting a law to require the Mayor’s Office to report on a matter to the Council is outside of the City Council’s legislative scope. Article II of the City’s Charter, which is enacted by the General Assembly, contains all the topics over which the City has the ability to legislate. *Kimball-Tyler Co. v. Baltimore*, 214 Md. 86, 94 (1957) (General Assembly gives the City its express powers). Although Section (27) of Article II allows the City to exercise police power, which courts have defined as “regulations necessary to preserve the public order, health, safety, or morals,” the Charter is clear that this power is not absolute, but that it is subject to other provisions of the Charter. Charter, Art. III, §11; *Tighe v. Osborne*, 149 Md. 349, 131 A. 801, 803 (1925). Said another way, no ordinance can conflict with the Charter.

The operation of the Mayor’s office has been reserved to the Mayor under the Charter as the Mayor is the Chief Executive Officer. City Charter, Art. IV, § 4 (b). “Except as committed to the Board of Estimates, the executive power of the City is vested in the Mayor, the City Administrator, the departments, commissions and boards provided for in this article and the special officers, departments, commissions and boards that may be created by law.” Charter, Art. VII, §1(a). While Section 2(a) of Article VII of the Charter allows for ordinances to give additional duties to “a department, officer, commission, board or other municipal agency” there is no provision that would allow an ordinance to direct the operations of the Mayor’s Office. Charter, Art. VII, §2(a).

The inclusion of the Mayor in Section 1(a) of Article VII describing executive power but the exclusion of the Mayor in Section 2(a) of the same Article describing the entities subject to direction by ordinance expresses the intent that no ordinance may direct the Mayor in his or her duties. *Mayor & City Council v. Bunting*, 168 Md. App. 134, 141 (2006) (“Charters are subject to

the ‘same canons of statutory construction that apply to the interpretation of statutes.’”) (citations omitted); *Friedman v. Hannan*, 412 Md. 328, 337 (2010) (documents read “as a whole to ensure that no word, clause, sentence or phrase is rendered surplusage, superfluous, meaningless or nugatory”); accord *Hylton v. Mayor and City Council of Baltimore*, 268 Md. 266, 282 (1972).

Rather, most similar legislation seeking information from the Mayor’s Office is done as a Resolution asking the particular Mayoral Office or outside group to attend and report at a hearing. See, e.g., *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium*, 313 Md. 413, 428 (1988). If the bill were converted to a Resolution, the Law Department bill could approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Hilary Ruley".

Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor