
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
EBONY M. THOMPSON, CITY SOLICITOR
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET
SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

February 13, 2024

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 24-0480 – Motor Fuel Credit Price – Signage

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 24-0480 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would amend language in the existing Consumer Protection law of Baltimore City concerning signs for motor fuel. Specifically, it would add a definition for “credit price,” require that the highest credit price be displayed if the retail dealer of motor fuel posts a sign under state law and provide for penalties for failure to display.

It should be noted that there are several Senate and House bills in the 2024 General Assembly that address displays of credit prices for motor fuel. *See, e.g.,* 2024 SB 651/HB 882. Should those bills be enacted, they may preempt this local legislation. MD Constitution, Art. 11-A, § 3; *see e.g., Mayor and City Council of Baltimore v. Hart*, 395 Md. 394, 408-09 (2006).

The Law Department can approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

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

Hilary Ruley
Chief Solicitor

cc: Ebony M. Thompson, City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
Jeffery Hochstetler, Chief Solicitor
Teresa Cummings, Assistant Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Assistant Solicitor