


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Alfred H. Foxx, Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Public Works 600 Abel Wolman Municipal Building		
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 12-0119		

TO DATE:
September 18, 2012

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle
Room 400 – City Hall

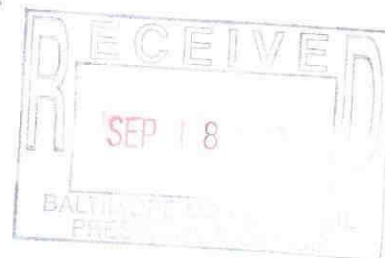
I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 12-0119 introduced by Council Member Kraft, Council President Young, Council Members Stokes, Branch, Scott, Curran, Clarke, Henry, Spector, Middleton, Mosby, Holton, Welch, Reisinger, and Cole.

The purpose of the Bill is to prohibit the disposal of garbage, waste and other matter, other than litter, into public trash receptacles located on or along any sidewalk, street, open space, wharf, or other public place; impose certain penalties; correct, clarify and conform related provisions; and generally relating to the dumping or disposal of garbage, waste, or other matter on public property.

The control of waste in our city is important in maintaining a healthy living environment. The Department of Public Works provides curbside collection of mixed refuse, recyclables, yard waste, and monthly scheduled bulk trash collections. Drop off facilities are available to residents free of charge for waste and recyclables, polystyrene, as well as eCycle items. Household hazardous waste may be dropped off the last Friday and Saturday of every month between April and November. The Department also has street, alley and lot cleaning programs, cleaning and boarding of properties, mechanical street sweeping routes, and clears and disposes of illegally dumped materials. In addition, the Department provides public trash receptacles, or corner cans, placed throughout the city, with special attention to commercial areas and highly trafficked bus stop and transfer points, to provide a convenient means for disposal of litter. The Department of Housing and Community Development enforces the sanitation laws of the City.

City Council Bill 12-0119, if approved, would add language to § 7-608 of Title 7 of the Health Code to clarify that disposal of garbage or other waste, except for litter (as defined in § 7-701), in any public trash receptacle is considered dumping on public property and may result in an environmental or civil citation or criminal penalty being issued to the violator. Persons who misuse these trash receptacles by disposing of bags of raw garbage or construction material in these cans quickly overwhelm the capacity of the containers, create additional trash and health problems with spill-over of inappropriate materials, attracting rats and preventing opportunities for proper litter disposal. Current law would not allow for citations or other actions against these types of waste disposal problems.

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It is for these reasons that the Department of Public Works supports passage of City Council Bill 12-0119.


ALFRED H. FOXX
DIRECTOR

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cc: Ms. Marcia Collins