



Catherine Pugh
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Gary Tuggle
Interim Police Commissioner

November 26, 2018

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

Attention: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

**Re: City Council Bill No. 18-0296
Licensing and Regulation- National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline
Information Sign Posting**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill 18-0296. This legislation is for the purpose of requiring certain businesses to post a National Human Trafficking Recourse Center hotline information sign in designated areas; requiring certain reports; defining certain terms; and establishing certain penalties.

The BPD supports this bill. This initiative will raise awareness of Human Trafficking in Baltimore City. Human Trafficking is one of the most underreported crimes in the City, yet national estimates and intelligence suggest that the City is a hot spot for such activity. This legislation provides another valuable tool to help the BPD tackle this problem.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. The BPD looks forward to working with the City Council on this matter.

Sincerely,

Danielle Butcher
Office of the Commissioner