




MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 12, 2020
TO: Housing and Urban Affairs Committee
FROM: Colin Tarbert, President and CEO 
POSITION: Support
SUBJECT: Council Bill 19-0429 – Vacant Structures – Posting Owner Information

INTRODUCTION

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) is reporting on City Council Bill 19-0429 introduced by the Council President and Members of the City Council.

PURPOSE

For the purpose of requiring that owners of certain vacant structures to conspicuously post on the exterior of the structure certain information regarding the ownership of the structure; requiring that the sign meet certain specifications; specifying when signs must be posted; dedicating a certain portion of the fine proceeds to the Affordable Housing Trust Fund; conforming related provisions; and providing for a special effective date.

FISCAL IMPACT

None

AGENCY POSITION

The Baltimore Development Corporation **Supports** City Council Bill 19-0429 with the amendments as proposed by Baltimore City's Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) – see attached.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Kim Clark at 410-837-9305 or at kclark@baltimoredevelopment.com.

Attachment

cc: Nicholas Blendy

[NAD]

DHCD Amendments for City Council Bill 19-0429

Amendment 1 – amendment of purpose clause

On page 1, line 3 delete “requiring that owners of certain vacant structures” and replace with “Allowing the Department of Housing and Community Development” and on the same page in line 4, delete the 2nd “the” from between “exterior of” and “structure” and replace with “vacant” and add a “s” onto the words “structure”. On the same page in line 5 replace “must” with “may.” On the same page in line 7, replace the semicolon after the word provisions with a comma and add “removing registration statement confidentiality requirement;”

Amendment 2 – removal of registration statement confidentiality

On page 3, delete lines 18 thru 30 and on page 4, delete lines 1 thru 4.

Amendment 3 – amendment of posting requirements

On page 4, line 7, delete “THE OWNER OF A VACANT STRUCTURE MUST AFFIX” and replace with “DHCD may affix on a vacant structure”, and on the same page in line 9, delete “the” and replace with “at a minimum” and on lines 9 and 10, delete “INFORMATION SET FORTH IN § 4-6(A){“REGISTRATION STATEMENT – CONTENTS: IN GENERAL”} OF THIS SUBTITLE.” and replace with “on how to access existing registration information.”

Amendment 4 – removing fine proceeds

On page 5, delete lines 1 thru 6.

Amendment 5 – removing calculating offenses and posting requirements

On page 5, line 21 remove brackets in front of and behind “Each day a separate offense” and on the same line, delete “CALCULATING OFFENSES.” And on the same page in line 22 delete “(1) IN GENERAL.” and on line 23, remove “EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, EACH” and on the same line remove the brackets from “Each” and on the same page delete lines 25 thru 27.

Amendment 6 – changing effective date

On page 5, line 31 delete “180th” and replace with “30th”