CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor 101 City Hall Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 15, 2010

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

> City Council Bill 09-0416- Environmental and Civil Citations- Notice Re: Requirements

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 09-0416 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would remove Sections 40-14(d) and 41-4(b) of Article 1 of the City Code and Section 113.3.6 of the Building, Fire and Related Codes, which currently provide that notice is not needed before the issuance and enforcement of an environmental or a civil citation. The removal of these sections would allow a notice to be sent prior to a citation for the offenses. There is no legal requirement that a notice be given prior to the issuance of a citation as Due Process concerns are implicated only with the issuing of the actual citation.

Since there are no legal impediments to the proposed amendments, the Law Department approves the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

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Assistant Solicitor

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor Ashlea Brown, Special Assistant Solicitor Terese Brown, Assistant Solicitor