
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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BALTIMORE, MD 21202

September 30, 2020

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

Re: City Council Bill 20-0599 - Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation
– Department of Housing and Community Development – \$6,000,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0599 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$6,000,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development – Service 809 (Retention, Expansion, and Attraction of Businesses), to provide funding for additional expenditures resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; and providing for a special effective date.

The City Charter establishes the criteria for making supplementary appropriations. City Charter, Art. VI, §8. Section 8(b)(3) of Article VI of the City Charter permits such a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstance or additional appropriations for new programs which could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the current Fiscal Year. The supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and must be approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance, which must identify the source of the funds and may only encompass a “single program, purpose, activity or project.” City Charter, Art. VI, §8(c).

The bill as drafted appears reflects those requirements. The Law Department therefore is prepared to approve this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Ashlea Brown
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Dana Moore, Acting City Solicitor

Matt Stegman, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Caylin Young, President's Legislative Director
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor