

MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable President and Members of the City Council
Attention: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

FROM: Kim Clark, Acting President *Kim Clark*

DATE: August 27, 2012

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 12-0121
Food Service Facilities – Public Notice of Inspection Grades

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on Council Bill 12-0121, Food Service Facilities - Public Notice of Inspection Grades. This ordinance would require the establishment of a program for grading and posting the results of food-service-facility inspections.

Empowering consumers with easy to digest information about the sanitary condition of the food service establishments they patronize is a wise idea. By implementing a letter grading system and by requiring food service facilities to post the results of inspections, the Health Department will be providing consumers with an easy-to-understand method of judging the cleanliness of an establishment. These grades will be a positive development as such a program will bring vital information already collected via health inspections to the forefront, while providing consumers with an easy way of staying informed. By posting grades, restaurants will be given an incentive to use the results to their competitive advantage, thus hopefully raising the bar of expectations that consumers hold for all establishments. BDC supports the proposed ordinance and is respectfully requesting that Bill No. 12-0121 is given favorable consideration by the City Council.

cc: Kaliope Parthemos
Angela Gibson

sandra.blake/ccbill12/12-0121

