Regional business leaders creating a better tomorrow... today.

March 25, 2013

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

Dear President Young and Members of the City Council:

On behalf of the Greater Baltimore Committee, I am writing to express my support for your recently submitted bill **Soliciting - Prohibited Places** (Council Bill 13-0186).

I understand that CB 13-0186 proposes to amend Article 19 of the Police Ordinances, Subtitle 47, in effort to strengthen and clarify certain elements of soliciting and aggressive soliciting in Baltimore City.

Enacting this legislation would have an economic development benefit as it relates to maintaining a consistent and positive climate for the current and future businesses, residents and visitors of the City which the Greater Baltimore Committee strives to attract and retain through its mission and actions.

The legislation would also improve the safety of both solicitors and motorists as panhandling often occurs in areas of traffic such as roadways, shoulders and streets as defined in the bill. The GBC is pleased at the decision of the City Council to revisit and improve this ordinance.

I look forward to the passage of this legislation and the wonderful results it will bring to Baltimore City.

Sincerely,

Donald C. Fry President & CEO

Greater Baltimore Committee