


MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: M. J. Brodie, President 

DATE: March 14, 2012

SUBJECT: City Council Bill No. 12-0033
Beverage Container Tax – Repealing “Sunset” – Modifying
Amount of Tax

The Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) has been asked to comment on Council Bill 12-0033, *Beverage Container Tax – Repealing “Sunset” – Modifying Amount of Tax*. This bill would repeal the sunset provision of the City’s existing Beverage Container Tax, and increase the amount of the tax to 5 cents per non-reusable beverage container. BDC understands the financial dilemma caused by the shortfalls that the City of Baltimore currently faces, especially in the area of funding critical improvements to the Baltimore City Public Schools. Given the current budget predictions, this tax is needed to provide funding for schools – and an improving public school system is vital to produce the prepared workforce needed for future economic development successes. This proposal is preferable to other potential tax increase to provide additional revenue.

At the same time, it is important that appropriate steps are taken to ensure that impacts on employers and taxpayers are minimized.

In conclusion, BDC supports this bill.

cc: Deputy Mayor Kaliope Parthemos
Angela Gibson

sandra.blake/ccbill12/12-0033

