

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cename, Budget Director <i>Robert Cename</i>	CITY of <b>BALTIMORE</b> <b>MEMO</b>	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, City Hall (410) 396-4774		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 21-0093 – Revising Whistleblower Rights and Responsibilities		

DATE:

**TO**

The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
City Hall, Room 400

September 24, 2021

**Position: Does Not Oppose**

The Department of Finance is herein reporting on City Council Bill 21-0093, revising Whistleblower Rights and Responsibilities, the purpose of which is to amend Article 1, Subtitle 8, of the City Code in relation to the rights provided to whistleblowers.

**Background**

The proposed legislation would define certain terms and require that a whistleblower report their complaint to their agency’s personnel officer, or the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) should the whistleblower have a reasonable belief that the personnel officer cannot competently investigate the disclosure. Additionally, this measure provides that the OIG give written notice of investigation or declination to the whistleblower within 30 days of the complaint, as well as provides for written documentation of protected activity to be provided to the whistleblower’s supervisor if an investigation commences. Lastly, this measure provides that written findings will be provided to the City Administrator, agency head and the whistleblower, as well as requires that the City Administrator hold a meeting with the agency head and the Inspector General to discuss the findings and recommendations.

**Fiscal Impact**

While the Department of Finance does not anticipate a fiscal impact for this bill, any budget requests for additional funds to implement this legislation will need to be submitted and reviewed through the annual budget process.

**Conclusion**

City Council Bill 21-0093, revising Whistleblower Rights and Responsibilities, seeks to amend Article 1, Subtitle 8, of the City Code in relation to the rights provided to whistleblowers. The Department of Finance does not object to the passage of this bill, and defers to the technical expertise of the named agencies on this legislation in their findings.

**For the reasons stated above, the Department of Finance does not oppose City Council Bill 21-0093.**

cc: Henry Raymond  
Natasha Mehu  
Nina Themelis