

Andrew Klein

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Andrew Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432 City Hall (396-4941)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #11-0685 – Water – Required Meter Reading

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO

DATE: May 9, 2011

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

Attention: Ms. Karen Randle

City Council Bill #11-0685 has been introduced for the purpose of ensuring that actual rather than estimated water meter readings are made, and requiring that actual rather than estimated water meter readings are used for residential billing purposes.

Currently, as outlined in the response from Public Works, there are certain circumstances that prevent the reading of water meters which in turn results in an estimated water bill. These circumstances include meters that are located interior to properties, and meters that are damaged or buried, among others. Correcting these issues would require a significant investment by the City for which funding is not available. Instead, we support the methods that Public Works has undertaken already to minimize the frequency of estimations, such as improved training for water meter readers and a pilot for automated meter reading.

The Department of Finance must respectfully oppose passage of City Council Bill 11-0685 for the reasons stated.

cc: Edward J. Gallagher
Angela Gibson

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