

Roselyn H. Spencer

FROM	NAME & TITLE	Roselyn H. Spencer, Executive Director
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Employees' Retirement System 7 East Redwood St., 12 th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 09-0262 Baltimore Benefits Commission - Membership

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO

DATE: January 16, 2009

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

The Board of Trustees of the Employees' Retirement System (ERS) has reviewed City Council Bill 09-0262, which proposes to increase the membership of the Baltimore Benefits Commission (the "Commission") from 17 to 21, to include the following:

- Budget Chief, Department of Finance;
- Chief, Fire Department;
- President, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, Local 44; and
- President, International Association of Firefighters, Local 964

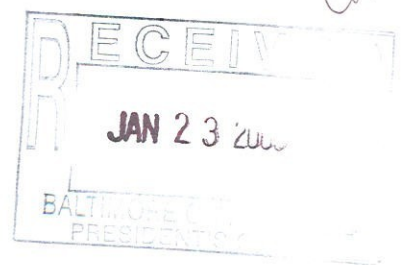
The Commission was a product of Ordinance 04-890, and has met on many occasions since its inception to address the total package of compensation and benefits provided to City employees and retirees. These discussions have looked at issues surrounding health, transportation, retirement, and other benefits, as well as associated costs.

As an ex-officio member of the Baltimore Benefits Commission, the Executive Director provides the ERS Board of Trustees with a voice on the Commission. In the past, ERS has been asked to brief the Commission on multiple issues, including post-retirement benefit increases and job-removal retirement benefits.

The Board of Trustees values this seat at the table and supports the goals of the Commission. Adding additional members to the Commission helps insure that all the various constituencies of City employees are adequately represented at these important discussions.

The ERS Board **NEITHER SUPPORTS NOR OPPOSES** Council Bill 09-0262, and welcomes the opportunity to address any questions or concerns that the Council may have.

Comments



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cc: Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council
Jennifer Coates, Council Services
Avery Aisenstark, Department of Legislative Reference
Edward Gallagher, Department of Finance
Gladys Gaskins, Department of Human Resources
Deborah Moore-Carter, Office of the Labor Commissioner
George Nilson, Department of Law