


<b>F R O M</b>	Name & Title	Letitia Dzirasa, M.D., Commissioner <i>LD</i>	Health Department	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 1001 E. Fayette Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202	AGENCY REPORT	
	Subject: Position:	CC #19-0148R FAVORABLE		

To: President and Members  
of the City Council  
c/o 409 City Hall

November 12, 2019

The Baltimore City Health Department (BCHD) is pleased to have the opportunity to review City Council Bill #19-0148R, entitled “Informational Hearing - Mold in Housing.” This resolution seeks a discussion regarding “the potential dangers of mold in housing.”

BCHD has a very limited role with respect to addressing mold. Mold is naturally occurring, and there is no scientific consensus on what specific type of, or how much, mold could potentially result in health-related issues. For example, there is no literature suggesting 300 spores of mold are dangerous to a person. Moreover, “no [Environmental Protection Agency] or other federal limits have been set for mold or mold spores.”<sup>1</sup>

There is, however, evidence to suggest that mold could exacerbate asthma symptoms. Our Asthma Home Visiting programs (Community Asthma Program and “Program 2”) educates and assists residents on remediating a number of potential environmental asthma triggers, including mold. As no standard exists for addressing mold contamination, BCHD’s Bureau of Environmental Health does not conduct testing for mold in the field or participate in remediation efforts.

Out of consideration for the many residents seeking guidance on mold contamination, BCHD requests a **favorable** report on Council Bill #19-0148R.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.epa.gov/mold/mold-testing-or-sampling>