

CITY OF BALTIMORE
STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

September 24, 2016

The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary
Room 409, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 16-0740 – Employees’ Retirement System and Elected Officials
Retirement System – Clarifications and Modifications

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 16-0740. The bill increases the number of members on the ERS/EOS Board and clarifies the calculation of the reserve guarantee option for ERS members. The bill also modifies the EOS for future elected officials by changing the age and years of service for eligibility and the deferred vested benefit; capping the amount of the benefit at 60% of annual pay at retirement; and adjusting the COLA and the COLA waiting period to be in line with the ERS COLA.

Article II, Section 24 gives authority to the Mayor and City Council to establish a pension system and provide for conditions for the applicability and operation of the employees retirement system and the elected officials retirement system. City Council Bill 16-0740 is an appropriate exercise of this authority.

The Law Department recommends several technical amendments to conform the language of the bill to the Charter. On page 2, line 29 and page 3, lines 5 and 12, strike “with the consent of” and insert “subject to confirmation by”.

Save w/ Amend



City Council Bill 16-0740
September 24, 2016
Page 2

Accordingly, provided the bill is amended as discussed above, the Law Department approves Council Bill 16-0740 for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,



Elena R. DiPietro
Chief Solicitor

cc: David E. Ralph, Acting City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor
Victor Tervalá, Assistant Solicitor
Jenny Landis, Assistant Solicitor