

March 11, 2013

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Attn: Karen Randle, Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 13-0201 – Supplementary State Fund Operating  
Appropriation – Police Department – \$32,400

Dear President and City Council Members:


The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 13-0200 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary State Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$32,400 to the Baltimore City Police Department. The bill has an immediate effective date.

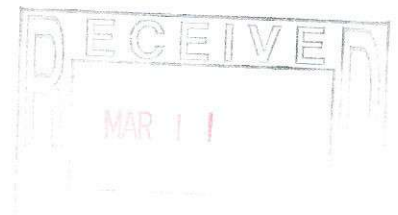
The City Charter establishes the criteria for making supplementary appropriations. City Charter, Art. VI, §8. Section 8(b)(2) of Article VI of the City Charter permits such a supplementary appropriation when it is made necessary by a government grant that could not reasonably have been anticipated at the time the Ordinance of Estimates was formulated. The supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and must be approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance, which may only encompass a “single program, purpose, activity or project.”

This is the appropriate method to provide these funds to the Baltimore City Police Department because the Public Local Laws of Baltimore City (“PLL”) require that the Baltimore City Police Commissioner “estimate annually the sum of money which will be necessary for the next ensuing fiscal year to enable the Department to meet the obligations and discharge the duties imposed upon it by this subtitle. In preparing such estimate, the Commissioner shall, under procedures established by the Board of Estimates, cooperate with the Director of Finance of the City of Baltimore in the same manner as provided for other municipal agencies of the City of Baltimore by the Charter of Baltimore City.” PLL, §16-8(a).

The Law Department approves this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

  
Hilary Ruley  
Assistant Solicitor



cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor  
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor  
Victor Tervalo, Assistant Solicitor

