

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



BOARD OF ETHICS  
OF BALTIMORE CITY

LINDA B. "LU" PIERSON, Chair  
AVERY AISENSTARK, Director  
626 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

August 26, 2013

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
Fourth Floor, City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202  
c/o Karen Randle, Executive Secretary

**Re: Bill 13-0249 {"Ethics – Lobbying Registration Fees"}**

You have referred Bill 13-0249 to the Board of Ethics for comment. Bill 13-0249 would require a filing fee of \$100 for lobbying registrations. It does so by adding the \$100 fee requirement as new language in § 8-14 of the Ethics Code, moving the existing language of § 8-14 to a new § 8-15, and repealing and reordaining § 3-23 {"Filing fees"} to insert new clarifying and conforming language made necessary by the changes in Subtitle 8 {"Lobbying"}.

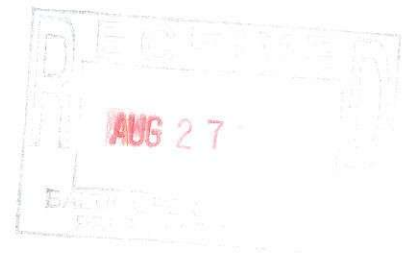
This change would permanently set the lobbying registration fee at \$100, and would accordingly remove the Board of Ethics' existing authority to set that fee administratively. Currently, the administratively set fee is \$20.

The Board has no objection to the enactment of Bill 13-0249.

Sincerely,

Thaddeus Watulak  
Deputy Ethics Director

xc: The Honorable James B. Kraft  
Ms. Angela Gibson



Tel: (410) 396-4730 Fax: (410) 396-8483  
<http://www.baltimorecity.gov/Government/BoardsandCommissions/EthicsBoard.aspx>