



F R O M	Name & Title	Joshua M. Sharfstein, M.D.  Commissioner	Health Department MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Health Department 210 Guilford Ave.		
	Subject	Council Bill 08-0134 Zoning – Conditional Use		

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

July 7, 2008

The Baltimore City Health Department is pleased to support Council Bill 08-0134, which will permit, subject to certain conditions, the establishment, maintenance, and operation of a nonprofit home and transitional housing facility for the care and custody of homeless persons on the property know as 2131 St. Paul Street.

According to the 2005 Report of the Baltimore City Homeless Census, there are almost 3,000 individuals who are homeless in Baltimore City. Lacking adequate income, affordable housing and health insurance, the City's homeless population represents some of the most vulnerable in our community. This problem has been compounded by the loss of public housing units in recent years. In fact, it is estimated that Baltimore City has lost over 3,000 units of public housing, and the waiting list now exceeds 18,000 households.

Council Bill 08-0134 will play an important role in helping to address the housing needs of citizens of Baltimore. The Baltimore City Health Department is committed to working with the City Council to develop a long-term strategy for addressing homelessness. We welcome the opportunity to provide more information on our other programs.

Cc: Angela Gibson

