FROM	NAME & TITLE	Theodore Atwood, Director
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of General Services 800 Abel Wolman Municipal Building
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL 11-0699

CITY of BALTIMORE





TO

DATE: June 9, 2011

The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council c/o Karen Randle Room 400 - City Hall

I am herein reporting on City Council Bill 11-0699 introduced by Council Members Henry, Middleton, Branch, Holton, Kraft, Stokes, Welch, Conaway, Clarke, Curran, and Reisinger.

The purpose of the Bill is to authorize the Mayor and City Council to grant variances as part of an ordinance authorizing or amending a conditional use or authorizing or amending a Planned Unit Development Plan; and generally relating to zoning variances, conditional uses, and Planned Unit Developments.

Since the passage of Ordinance 03-636, Planned Unit Development (PUD) ordinances have authorized variances to the Zoning Code. Recently, the Department of Law notified the Planning Department that while Ordinance 03-636 clearly authorizes granting of zoning variances through conditional use ordinances or actions of the Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals, the use of PUD ordinances to authorize variances may be called into question. The intent of City Council Bill 11-0699 is to amend the Zoning Article of the Baltimore City Revised Code to clarify that a Mayor and City Council ordinance process may authorize or amend a conditional use or a PUD.

The Department of General Services supports passage of City Council Bill 11-0699 provided the Department of Law concurs.

Theodore Atwood

Director

TA/MMC:pat

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