



# MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE  
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,  
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,  
Executive Director, DHD  
600 BALTIMORE CITY

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: November 7, 2012

Re: **City Council Bill 12-0123 – Building, Fire and Related Codes – 2012 Edition**

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 12-0123, which was introduced for the purpose of adopting a revised Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article, comprising the Maryland Building Performance Standards (effective January 1, 2012), the International Building Code (2012 Edition), the International Electric Code (2011 Edition), the International Fuel Gas Code (2012 Edition), the International Mechanical Code (2012 Edition), the International Plumbing Code (2012 Edition), the International Property Maintenance Code (2012 Edition), the International Fire Code (2012 Edition), the International Energy Conservation Code (2012 Edition), and the International Residential Code for One- and Two-Family Dwellings (2012 Edition), all as supplemented, amended, or otherwise modified by this Ordinance; providing for the effect, construction, and effective date of these new standards and codes; conforming, correcting, and clarifying certain language; and generally relating to the adoption of new building, fire, property maintenance, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, and related codes for Baltimore City.

The most recent major revision to the Building, Fire and Related Codes of Baltimore City occurred in early 2011 with the enactment of Ordinance 11-419. The International Code Council (ICC) regularly meets and reviews the various above-referenced codes and discusses potential amendments to them. Every third year, the ICC adopts improvements, in accordance with its regular three-year business cycle. Once the ICC has adopted its new codes, the State of Maryland adopts the newest ICC versions of these codes. Pursuant to Maryland Code, Public Safety Article, Title 12, Subtitle 5, any modification to the Maryland Building Performance Standards approved by the State after December 31, 2009 shall be incorporated into local codes by Baltimore City and the other Maryland jurisdictions in a timely fashion; accordingly, the Department of Housing and Community Development requested the introduction of this legislation.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 12-0123.

PTG:nb

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*  
Ms. Kaliopé Parthemos, *Deputy Mayor*  
Mr. Michael Braverman, *Deputy Commissioner*  
Mr. Jason Hessler, *Assistant Commissioner*  
Mr. Ghanshyamkumar Patel, *Director*

