



MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,
Executive Director, HABC
Commissioner, HCD

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

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: September 20, 2013

Re: **City Council Bill 13-0222 – Corrective Bill 2013**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 13-0222, which was introduced for the purpose of correcting certain technical errors and omissions in the City Code; repealing certain obsolete or otherwise preempted, superseded, or superfluous provisions; correcting, clarifying, and conforming certain language; and providing for a special effective date.

This bill, if enacted, would amend several provisions of Baltimore City Code, as is done from time to time, to correct certain errors omissions, as well as to add certain clarifying and corrective language in the Code that resulted from subsequent legislative additions and deletions.

The provisions relevant to HCD are the following:

- Building, Fire, and Related Codes – Ordinance 13-093 adopted the 2013 Building, Fire and Related Codes, which incorporated the most recent version of a series of International Code Council codes. Among other things, Chapter 10 of the International Building Code (IBC), and Chapter 3, Section 311 of the International Residential Code (IRC), which concerned the Means of Egress and a stairway tread requirement exception for certain occupancies, but failed to properly conform the provisions to the IBC and the IRC properly. This bill would correct these unintended errors.

Additionally, the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) requires a technical correction at § 106.4 to clarify that the penalties for IPMC violations are found in § 114 of the Baltimore City Building Code. This bill corrects this issue.

- Article 13 (Housing and Urban Renewal) – Under the Residential Lease Requirements of Subtitle 7 of Article 13, certain information is required in each residential lease to provide certain property owner contact information for the owner or his/her agent. This bill would correct two obsolete references that are not used in the sections they reference, as well as clarifying that an agent must be authorized to receive service of process on behalf of the property owner.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 13-0222.

PTG:nb

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Kaliope Parthemous, *Deputy Mayor*

