


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Robert Cenname, Chief <i>RC for</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 432, Citv Hall (410) 396-4941		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill 17-0117 - Food Service Facilities - Polystyrene Foam Products		

DATE:

TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
Room 400, City Hall

January 22, 2018

Attention: Ms. Natawna Austin

We are responding to City Council Bill 17-0117 – Food Service Facilities – Polystyrene Foam Products, the purpose of which is to prohibit food service facilities from using disposable food service ware made from polystyrene foam or else face a penalty.

Analysis

CCB 17-0117 would amend Title 6, Subtitle 5 of the Health Article of the Baltimore City Code by adding Section 6-508 to prohibit food service facilities from using server ware containing polystyrene. This bill also provides for enforcement of the ban by repealing and re-ordaining Sections 6-801 and 6-802 that allow for the issuance of environmental citations and provide penalties for violations of Title 6. Article 1, Subtitle 40-14 of the City Code is also amended to institute a \$200 penalty for violation of Section 6-508 of the Health Article.

A similar version of this bill (CCB 12-0104) was introduced by City Council in 2012, but was not enacted at the time. A statewide ban on polystyrene foam server ware was also introduced and failed to pass during the 2017 Maryland General Assembly. We expect a statewide ban will be proposed once again during the 2018 Session.

Fiscal Impact

The fiscal impact of this bill is likely to be negligible. As indicated by the Health Department during the previous iteration of this ban, this provision would be added to the current list of other provisions that health inspectors already apply when inspecting food service facilities. Duties associated with enforcing this ban would be absorbed into the current workload, without significant additional strain on City resources. Additionally, it is not anticipated a material reduction in trash collection.

On the revenue side, it is not expected that the City would generate substantial revenues from the enforcement of the proposed legislation.

Recommendation

The Department of Finance has no objection to City Council Bill 17-0117.

cc: Henry Raymond
Angela Gibson