CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor 101 City Hall Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 12, 2010

Honorable President and Members of the City Council of Baltimore Room 409, City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Attn: Karen Randle **Executive Secretary**

> Re: City Council Bill 10-0489 - Miscellaneous Offenses - Citation and Penalty Amounts

Dear President and City Council Members:

You have requested the advice of the Law Department regarding City Council Bill 10-0489. City Council Bill 489 modifies the fines for certain offenses including drinking or possessing open containers in public places, compliance with park rules, spitting or urinating in public, indoor smoking, sale of unpackaged cigarettes or flavored tobacco wrappings, disorderly drinking, and ticket scalping.

The title of Section 12-607 needs to be changed to reflect the new penalty amount. An amendment is attached.

City Council Bill 489 is consistent with the City's powers under the Charter to establish fines for violations of City ordinances. See Baltimore City Charter, Art. II, § 48. Therefore, the Law Department would approve the bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely yours,

Ashlea H. Brown

Assistant City Solicitor



cc: Angela Gibson, City Council Liaison, Mayor's Office George Nilson, City Solicitor Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor Terese Brown, Assistant Solicitor

Amendment to Council Bill 10-489 (First Reader Copy)

By:

Law Department

{To be offered to the Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee}

Amendment No. 1

On page 5, in line 12, delete "\$250" and insert "\$1,000".