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	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Department of Human Resources 201 E. Baltimore Street, 3 rd Floor
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill No. 10-0445 Public Ethics Law – Ethics Board Composition, Tenure, - Training

CITY of
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MEMO



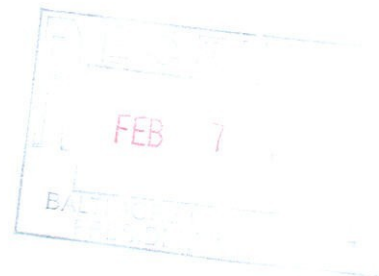
TO

DATE:
February 16, 2010

The Honorable Bernard “Jack” Young and
Members of the Baltimore City Council
City Hall, Room 406
100 N. Holliday Street

The Department of Human Resources is pleased to submit comments in support of City Council Bill 10-0445. The purpose of this bill is to restructure the composition, qualifications, tenure and removal of the Ethics Board members. Additionally, under the proposed legislation the Board will be required to provide specific reports and the mandatory ethics training will be expanded to include more agencies and entities. In sum this bill would enhance accountability and knowledge of ethics regulations for city officials, employees and citizens of Baltimore.

This Bill modifies the current membership appointment process to allow the City Council President and the City Comptroller to nominate two of the five Board members as opposed to allowing the Mayor to nominate all five members. This will diminish the appearance of bias and decentralize control of the Board by one individual. As proposed the Bill also staggers the tenure of the board members and only allows the Mayor to remove a member for specific causes. Finally, the Department of Human Resources is available to provide a venue for the expanded ethics training.



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