



MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,
Mayor

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,
Executive Director, HABCD
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 17, 2012

Re: **City Council Bill 12-0119 – Waste Control – Disposal of Garbage and Other Waste in Litter Receptacles**

The Department of Housing and Community Development has reviewed City Council Bill 12-0119, which was introduced for the purpose of prohibiting the disposal of garbage, waste, and other matter, other than litter, into public trash receptacles located on or along any sidewalk, street, open space, wharf, or other public place; imposing certain penalties; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related provisions; and generally relating to the dumping or disposal of garbage, waste, or other matter on public property.

This bill, if adopted, would amend a portion of the Waste Control title of the Health Article of the Baltimore City Code to alter and clarify what is permitted and prohibited from being lawfully disposed of in a public street trash can. Public street trash cans, commonly referred to as corner cans, are extremely useful in providing a place for loose trash to be disposed of by a passer-by. However, these corner cans may become a nuisance when local residents and businesses use these corner cans for regular household waste disposal. The abuse of these cans often leads to the cans being too full for loose litter or having the opening blocked so additional litter cannot be disposed of properly. Such abuse also can lead to additional bags of trash being deposited on the street adjacent to the corner can. While placing residential trash in a bag on the street is a clear violation of existing law, the code, as currently written, is not as clear on placing business or residential trash in a corner can. City Council Bill 12-0119, if enacted, would clarify the code and make it illegal to place any trash that is over one pound in weight in a corner can.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 12-0119.

PTG:nb

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

