
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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September 9, 2024

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

RE: Council Bill 24-0219R – Investigational Hearing – Citywide Rat Abatement Efforts

Dear President and Members:

The Law Department reviewed 24-0219R. The bill invites representatives from the Baltimore City Health Department, the Department of Public Works, and the Department of Housing and Community Development to discuss citywide rat abatement efforts, including reducing the rodent population, collaboration of City agencies on coordinated abatement measures, and the status of the Health Department's Bureau of Vector Control.

In general, Art. III, §9 of the City Charter and City Code Art. 1, §1-4 give the City Council authority to study or investigate the operation of City agencies and to make recommendations for the more effective operation of the agencies. Article III, §9 of the Charter requires department heads, municipal officers not embraced in a department, and members of commissions and boards to appear before the City Council if so requested to participate in the discussion of matters relating to their respective departments, offices, commissions, or boards.

Council Bill 24-0219R is an appropriate resolution to initiate this process and request the specified officials to attend to provide information on citywide rate abatement efforts.

The Law Department approves Council Bill 24-0219R for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

Desiree Luckey
Assistant Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
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