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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
JAMES L. SHEA, CITY SOLICITOR  
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SUITE 101, CITY HALL  
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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October 7, 2021

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: City Council Bill 21-0144 – Supplemental General Fund Operating Appropriation –  
Mayoralty-Related: Convention Center Hotel – \$2,500,000

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0144 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill provides a Supplementary General Fund Operating Appropriation in the amount of \$2,500,000 to the M-R: Convention Center Hotel - Service 535 (Convention Center Hotel), to provide funding for debt service expenses resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic; and providing for a special effective date.

The City Charter establishes the criteria for making supplementary appropriations. City Charter, Art. VI, §8. Section 8(b)(3) of Article VI of the City Charter permits such a supplementary appropriation when there has been “a material change in circumstance or additional appropriations for new programs which could not reasonably be anticipated at the time of the formulation of the proposed Ordinance of Estimates” for the fiscal year. The supplementary appropriation must be recommended by the Board of Estimates and must be approved by the Mayor and City Council via an ordinance, which must identify the source of the funds and may only encompass a “single program, purpose, activity or project.” City Charter, Art. VI, §8(c). The Law Department approves this bill for form and legal sufficiency.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ashlea Brown".

Ashlea Brown  
Chief Solicitor

cc: James L. Shea, City Solicitor  
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Victor Tervalo, Chief Solicitor