
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG,
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
ANDRE M. DAVIS, CITY SOLICITOR
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SUITE 101, CITY HALL
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

October 2, 2019

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

Re: City Council Bill 19-0150R– Investigative Hearing- Entities Receiving
City Funds: Are They Holding Up Their End of the Bargain

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0150R for form and legal sufficiency. The resolution is for the purpose of inviting representatives of certain organizations located within Baltimore that both receive public funds from the City of Baltimore and lease any portion of their venue to the public for catered events, to discuss why some of these organizations utilize exclusive vendor lists without any minority business representation, the selection criteria, if any, for the creation of the exclusive lists; and what solutions, legislative or otherwise, can be implemented for the inclusion of MBE/WBE businesses on the exclusive lists.

In general, a City Council resolution is “an expression of opinion or mind concerning some particular item of business coming within the legislative body’s official cognizance.” *Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium Assoc.*, 545 A.2d 1296, 1303 (Md. 1988) (quoting *McQuillin Mun. Corp.* § 15:2 (3rd Ed.)). Council Bill 19-150R is an appropriate resolution to express the Council’s concerns about this particular situation and request that appropriate officials to discuss methods to include more MWBE’s on exclusive vendor lists at the facilities in question.

Accordingly, the Law Department approves Council Bill 19-0150R for form and legal sufficiency as it is a valid method of conveying City Council’s desires regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Elena R. DiPietro".

Elena R. DiPietro
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre Davis, City Solicitor

Matthew Stegman, Mayor's Legislative Liaison
Caylin Young, President's Legislative Director
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, Practice Group Chief
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor
Avery Aisenstark