


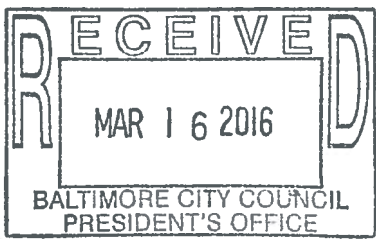
FROM	NAME & TITLE	Niles R. Ford, PhD, Chief of Fire Department <i>MLF</i>	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Baltimore City Fire Department 401 East Fayette St. 21202		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill #16-0616 Response to Hookah Lounges		

TO The Honorable Bernard C. Young, President
And All Members of the Baltimore City Council
City Hall, Room 408

DATE: March 14, 2016

For the purpose of authorizing hookah lounges as conditional uses (ordinance required) in certain zoning districts; defining certain terms; specifying certain considerations for these uses; excepting hookah lounges from the City's indoor smoking restrictions, subject to certain conditions; repealing two other, preempted and no-longer valid, exceptions to the City's indoor smoking restrictions; excepting properly zoned hookah lounges from having to obtain a late-night operations license; and generally relating to the zoning and operation of hookah lounges.

The Baltimore City Fire Department in response to City Council Bill # 16-0616 from a fire safety perspective we are unable to support this proposed Bill, two outlying issues that using hookahs currently violate are the provisions of the Baltimore City Health Code, which prohibits indoor smoking and the Fire Code, which prohibits the use of open burning indoors without a proper permit.



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