

CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

GEORGE A. NILSON, City Solicitor
101 City Hall
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

August 4, 2015

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

Re: City Council Bill 15-0487 – Zoning – Office-Residence Districts-
Accessory Shops

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 15-0487 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill would amend the text of the Zoning Code of Baltimore City (“ZC”) to increase the maximum aggregate size allowed for certain accessory shop uses in an Office-Residence District. There is no legal impediment to this change. The Law Department defers to the Planning Commission and Zoning Administrator regarding the impact, if any, this change may have on other sections of the Zoning Code.

Under ZC Section 16-101(d) this bill is considered “zoning legislation.” As such, certain procedures apply to it; namely, ZC §§16-301, 16-302 (referral to certain City agencies, which are obligated to review the bill in a specified manner); ZC §16-401 (pre-requisite for second reading); ZC §16-402 (public notice and hearing); and ZC §16-403 (limitations on the City Council’s ability to amend the bill). Assuming this bill was properly advertised and the Council holds the requisite hearings, the Law Department can approve it for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Landis
Assistant Solicitor

cc: George Nilson, City Solicitor
Angela C. Gibson, Mayor’s Legislative Liaison
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor

