

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 24-0553
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: The Council President

At the request of: The Administration

Introduced and read first time: June 24, 2024

Assigned to: Health, Environment, and Technology Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Department of Housing and Community Development, Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission, Health Department, Baltimore Police Department

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Mayor’s Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission – Amendments**

3 FOR the purpose of amending the composition of the Mayor’s Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory
4 Commission; altering procedures for meetings of the Commission; providing for staff to the
5 Commission; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to the Mayor’s
6 Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission.

7 BY repealing and re-ordaining, with amendments

8 Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
9 Sections 55-3 and 55-6
10 Baltimore City Code
11 (Edition 2000)

12 BY adding

13 Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
14 Sections 55-7
15 Baltimore City Code
16 (Edition 2000)

17 BY repealing

18 Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
19 Sections 55-8 and 55-9
20 Baltimore City Code
21 (Edition 2000)

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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1 BY renumbering
2 Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies
3 Sections 55-10, 55-12, and 55-13
4 to be
5 Sections 55-8, 55-9, and 55-10
6 Baltimore City Code
7 (Edition 2000)

8 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That
9 Sections 55-10, 55-12, and 55-13, respectively, of Article 1 - Mayor, City Council, and
10 Municipal Agencies of the Baltimore City Code be renumbered to be Sections 55-8, 55-9, and
11 55-10, respectively.

12 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the Laws of Baltimore City read as
13 follows:

14 **Baltimore City Code**

15 **Article 1. Mayor, City Council, and Municipal Agencies.**

16 **Subtitle 55. Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission.**

17 **§ 55-3. Advisory Commission membership.**

18 (a) *In general.*

19 (1) The Advisory Commission consists of [26] 15 members.

20 (2) Of these:

21 (i) [15] 7 members are appointed by the Mayor in accordance with Article IV, § 6
22 of the Baltimore City Charter; and

23 (ii) [11] 8 members are [agency representatives.] EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.

24 (b) *Appointed members.*

25 The [15] 7 appointed members of the Advisory Commission are as follows:

26 [(1) 1 member representing each of the following 4 organizations:]

27 [(i) Maryland SPCA;]

28 [(ii) The Snyder Foundation for Animals;]

29 [(iii) the ASPCA; and]

30 [(iv) the Baltimore Animal Rescue and Care Shelter.]

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1 [(2) 1 City Council member, nominated by the President of the City Council.]

2 [(3) 1 judge.]

3 [(4) 1 veterinarian practicing in Baltimore City.]

4 [(5) 4 at-large members.]

5 [(6) 4 at-large members, nominated by the President of the City Council.]

6 (1) 2 MEMBERS REPRESENTING:

7 (I) ANIMAL RESCUE GROUPS; OR

8 (II) ANIMAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS;

9 (2) 2 AT-LARGE MEMBERS, NOMINATED BY THE MAYOR;

10 (3) 1 MEMBER OF THE CITY COUNCIL, NOMINATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY
11 COUNCIL; AND

12 (4) 2 AT-LARGE MEMBERS, NOMINATED BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL.

13 (c) *[Agency representatives.] EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS.*

14 The [11 agency representatives] 8 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS are the following, or their
15 designated representatives:

16 [(1) the Director of the Bureau of Animal Control.]

17 [(2) the Health Commissioner.]

18 [(3) the Director of Juvenile Services.]

19 [(4) the Director of Social Services.]

20 [(5) the Mayor.]

21 [(6) the President of the City Council.]

22 [(7) the State's Attorney for Baltimore City.]

23 [(8) the Police Commissioner.]

24 [(9) the Baltimore City Sheriff.]

25 [(10) the Commissioner of Housing.]

26 [(11) the CEO of the Baltimore City Public School System]

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- 1 (1) THE MAYOR;
- 2 (2) THE PRESIDENT OF THE CITY COUNCIL;
- 3 (3) THE STATE’S ATTORNEY FOR BALTIMORE CITY;
- 4 (4) THE BALTIMORE CITY SHERIFF;
- 5 (5) THE POLICE COMMISSIONER;
- 6
- 7 (6) THE HEALTH COMMISSIONER;
- 8 (7) THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL CONTROL; AND
- 9 (8) THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, OR DIRECTOR OF AN
- 10 ANIMAL SHELTER OPERATING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY.

11 (d) *Appointment without regard to political affiliation.*

12 The appointment of members must be made without regard to political affiliation.

13 **§ 55-6. Meetings; quorum.**

14 (a) *In general.*

- 15 (1) The Advisory Commission [meets once per month.] SHALL MEET AT LEAST 2 TIMES
- 16 EACH CALENDAR YEAR.
- 17 (2) The Advisory Commission may hold additional meetings, at the call of the Chair, as
- 18 frequently as required to perform its duties.
- 19 (3) A majority of the members of the Advisory Commission constitutes a quorum for the
- 20 transaction of business.
- 21 (4) An affirmative vote by the majority of a quorum is needed for any official action.

22 (b) *Rules of procedure.*

23 The Advisory Commission may adopt rules of procedure to govern its meetings and

24 procedures.

25 (c) *Failure to attend meetings.*

26 If any member is absent from regularly scheduled meetings more than [3 times] 1 TIME in

27 1 year, not counting absences excused by the Chair:

- 28 (1) the member is considered to have resigned; and
- 29 (2) the Chair must request that the member's appointing authority fill the resultant
- 30 vacancy.

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1 **§ 55-7. PERSONNEL; BUDGET.**

2 (A) *STAFF.*

3 THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE ADEQUATE STAFF FOR THE ADVISORY
4 COMMISSION TO CARRY OUT ITS DUTIES.

5 (B) *VOLUNTEERS.*

6 THE ADVISORY COMMISSION MAY ENGAGE THE SERVICES OF VOLUNTEER WORKERS,
7 WITHOUT SALARY.

8 (C) *BUDGET.*

9 THE ADVISORY COMMISSION MAY EXPEND FUNDS AS AUTHORISED IN THE ORDINANCE OF
10 ESTIMATES.

11 [**§ 55-8. Volunteers.**]

12 [The Advisory Commission may engage the services of volunteer workers, without salary.]

13 [**§ 55-9. Budget.**]

14 [The Advisory Commission may expend funds as authorised in the Ordinance of Estimates.]

15 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on date it is
16 enacted.