


FROM	NAME & TITLE	Sandra E. Baker, Esq., Executive Director	CITY of BALTIMORE MEMO	
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL BOARD 417 East Fayette Street, Room 634		
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill No 08-0214 Illegal Dumping - Penalties - Enforcement		

TO

The Honorable Stephanie Rawlings- Blake
President of City Council of Baltimore
400 City Hall

DATE: December 11, 2008

The Environmental Control Board (ECB) supports the premise of adding to the penalties for illegal waste disposal. In addition to adding to the penalties, this bill authorizes the Health Commissioner to abate violations and collect costs, expenses, and penalties from the persons responsible for such action.

ECB notes that illegal dumping spans a broad spectrum of items, locations and offenders. Some incidents are careless while others are premeditated and well planned. Overall, the findings suggested that respondents viewed dumping as a minor misdemeanor at worst and apathy and complacency seems to be an issue. Most perceived that 'correct' disposal methods are costly and some consider dumping as a way to recycle goods because others come and take reusable items from the pile.

ECB is in support of this bill since one of it major objective will focus on strengthening code enforcement of illegal dumping. In addition, enforcement will serve as an intensified mechanism for enhancing the Mayor's initiatives for combating dirt and grime.

SEB:dk

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