

April 27, 2015

The Honorable Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Office of the City Council President
100 N. Holliday St., Suite 400
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Council Bill 15-0524, Labor and Employment, Human Trafficking Whistleblower Protection

Dear Mr. President and City Council Members:

Visit Baltimore has reviewed **15-0524 Labor and Employment - Human Trafficking Whistleblower Protection**.

We understand the purpose of this bill as being to prohibit retaliation against employees of certain employers for reporting suspected human trafficking; defining certain terms; providing for certain penalties; and, generally relating to employee reports of suspected human trafficking.

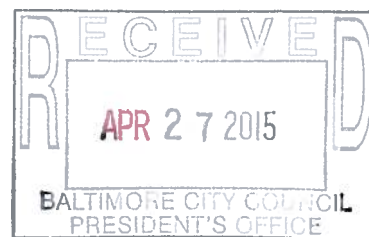
Furthermore, we understand this bill to have been spurred by Council Bill *14-0464 Hotels - Human Trafficking Prevention*. Visit Baltimore did not support bill 14-0464 as originally introduced, and, continues to both urge caution and request consideration of Baltimore's hotel community and overall business competitiveness as this bill moves through the legislative process. However, if bill 14-0464 were to pass, Visit Baltimore would support the Human Trafficking Whistleblower legislation as it provides protection to a person reporting in good-faith a suspected act of human trafficking in our hotel community.

Submitted respectfully,



Tom Noonan
President & CEO

Cc: Colin Tarbet
Angela Gibson



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