
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW
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July 12, 2023

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

Re: City Council Bill 23-0179R – Informational Hearing – Gas Regulator
Installation Location

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 23-0179R for form and legal sufficiency. The bill is for the purpose of inviting representatives from the Department of Public Works, the Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation, the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company, and relevant stakeholder groups to brief the City Council on the ongoing installation of gas regulators at residential sites, including a discussion of best practices for the internal or external installation of a gas regulator at a residential property, a discussion of safety considerations with regard to the location of a gas regulator, and a response to recent community concerns related to the relocation of gas regulators at residential properties in Baltimore City.

The City Council has an inherent power to investigate “in furtherance of its legislative function.” 4 McQuillin Mun. Corp. § 13:7. A resolution is an appropriate way for the City Council of Baltimore to conduct an informational hearing. *See, e.g., Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium*, 313 Md. 413, 428 (1988). Therefore, the Law Department approves this Resolution for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hochstetler
Chief Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, Acting City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor

D'Ereka Bolden, Assistant Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Special Solicitor
Teresa Cummings, Assistant Solicitor