



MEMORANDUM

STEPHANIE
RAWLINGS-BLAKE,

PAUL T. GRAZIANO,

Executive Director, DHCD
Commissioner, BHO

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Karen Randle, *Executive Secretary*

From: Paul T. Graziano, *Commissioner*

Date: November 17, 2010

Re: **City Council Bill 10-0596 - Sale of Property - 1125 North Calvert Street**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 10-0596, which was introduced for the purpose of authorizing the Mayor and City Council of Baltimore to sell, at either public or private sale, all its interest in certain property known as 1125 North Calvert Street (Ward 11, Section 12, Block 498, Lot 10) and no longer needed for public use.

This property, currently known as the Inn at Government House, was originally a private residence that was donated to the City in 1939. The property, along with two adjoining rowhouses, was restored in the 1980's to serve as the City's official guesthouse. In 2008, the Baltimore Development Corporation (BDC) issued a Request For Proposal to identify a party to purchase, lease or operate the facility. The BDC received an acceptable offer from Mount Vernon Mansion, LLC to purchase the property and convert it into a historic bed and breakfast with a restaurant and event space. Consequently, this sale ordinance, if approved, would authorize the sale of 1125 North Calvert Street.

The Department of Housing and Community Development supports the adoption of City Council Bill 10-0596.

PTG:pmd

cc: Ms. Angela Gibson, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Diane Hutchins, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*
Ms. Kaliopé Parthemos, *Deputy Mayor*