



MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Alice Kennedy, Commissioner



Date: January 26, 2022

Re: City Council Bill 20-0124 Corrective Bill 2021 - Definitions; Rules of Interpretation; Time Computations

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 21-0124 for the purpose of repealing the many definitions and rules of statutory interpretation and time computation that have been superseded by the enactment of Code-wide, standardized definitions and rules; clarifying certain purposeful variations; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, City Council Bill 21-0124 would repeal and re-ordain with amendments various Articles relative to DHCD including; Article 13 - Housing and Urban Renewal, Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation, Article 23 – Sanitation, Article 28 – Taxes, Article 32 – Zoning and the Building, Fire, and Related Codes Article.

The changes proposed in this corrective Bill simply centralize definitions common throughout City Code such as “person”, “includes” or “including”, mandatory terms, prohibitory terms and permissive terms, with the standard definitions in the General Provisions Article. The Bill also removes certain standards for severability, rules of construction and time computations in favor of the Code-wide iteration of the standards.

This change would reduce duplication throughout the various codes in favor of the Code-wide standard definitions in the General Provisions Article. Passage of this legislation would not represent a substantive change to any of the Articles administered or applied by DHCD.

DHCD does not object to the passage of City Council Bill 20-0124.

AK/sm

cc: Ms. Nina Themelis, Mayor's Office of Government Relations

Brandon M. Scott, Mayor • **Alice Kennedy**, Housing Commissioner

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