

CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE PUGH Mayor



MAYOR'S OFFICE OF HUMAN SERVICES

71 Redwood Street 5th Floor
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

November 27, 2018

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

**Re: City Council Bill 18-0107R – Investigative Hearing – Arson and Fire Fatality
Awareness: Community Risk Reduction Program**

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Mayor's Office of Human Services ("MOHS") has reviewed #18-0107R. The proposed resolution calls on various city agencies to appear before the City Council to discuss arsons, fire fatalities and injuries and school fires, along with what steps the City can take to reduce the risk of these incidents occurring.

From a Human Services perspective, #18-0296 is likely to stimulate an important dialogue between a diverse group of city agencies and the City Council regarding fire safety issues. Fire-related incidents that impact human life and safety in homeless encampments and vacant properties being used for shelter are serious issues encountered by the city's outreach team and other providers. The Mayor's Office of Human Services recognized the importance of this resolution and we are eager to participate in any effort to reduce and prevent fire-related injuries and deaths.

The Mayor's Office of Human Services supports the resolution.

Sincerely,

Terry F. Hickey
Director