

INTRODUCTORY*
CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL _____R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmember Ramos

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

**Informational Hearing – Condition of Older Adult Residential
Housing in Baltimore City**

FOR the purpose of inviting the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, and the Mayor's Office of Older Adults Affairs and Advocacy to report on and discuss recommendations for improving the conditions of housing for older adults in the City.

Recitals

Communities of older adults throughout Baltimore are experiencing poor living conditions in older adult living facilities, harming the quality of life of this vulnerable population. The failure to maintain safe, accessible facilities creates a dangerous environment that affects all aspects of older residents' lives.

Many older adults live in high-rise buildings with original elevator facilities that are prone to breakdowns with long repair times. High-rise living without access to working elevators hinders older adults' ability to freely come and go from their homes, even within the same building. Aging elevators that are frequently out of service limit access to travel, vital community resources, and social and civic activities. In addition, many senior buildings do not have adequate security, which makes them vulnerable to violence and auto theft.

The Baltimore City Council seeks a hearing to lift up the voices of the City's older adults and to find solutions to address the issues the community faces. Older adults deserve to live with comfort and dignity, which current housing options do not always provide.

The hearing will seek to answer the following questions about the housing resources available to older adults:

- (a) the number and location of all buildings designated as housing for older adults;
- (b) the income requirements of all buildings designated as housing for older adults;

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- (c) the type of management program of all buildings designated as housing for older adults, such as Rent Assistance Demonstration, Housing Authority of Baltimore City, or private management;
- (d) the number and results of all 311 complaints levied within the last year for each building designated as housing for older adults;
- (e) the number and results of all Department of Housing and Community Development inspections within the last year for each building designated as housing for older adults;
- (f) whether, at the time of the hearing, the elevator facilities are working in each building designated as housing for older adults; and
- (g) what policy or financial changes are recommended to accommodate the older adult population to ensure that they can live with dignity and care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the City Council invites the Department of Housing and Community Development, the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, and the Mayor's Office of Older Adults Affairs and Advocacy to report on and discuss recommendations for improving the conditions of housing for older adults in the City.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Commissioner of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the President of the Housing Authority of Baltimore City, the Director of the Mayor's Office of Older Adults Affairs and Advocacy, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.