

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 14-0464
(First Reader)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Kraft, Curran, Branch, Middleton, Clarke, Spector, Welch,
Mosby, Henry, Scott

Introduced and read first time: December 4, 2014

Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Baltimore Development Corporation,
Baltimore Hotel Corporation, Department of Finance, Downtown Partnership, Baltimore City
Convention Center, Visit Baltimore, Department of Social Services, Office of Civil Rights and
Wage Enforcement, Police Department

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ORDINANCE concerning

2 **Hotels – Human Trafficking Prevention**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring the registration of all hotels in the City; prohibiting hotels from
4 renting out sleeping accommodations for a period of less than ½ day; requiring that all hotel
5 employees receive training in how to identify human trafficking activities and human
6 trafficking victims; requiring hotels to certify that all employees have been given anti-human
7 trafficking training; defining certain terms; providing for certain penalties; and generally
8 relating to the operation of hotels in Baltimore City.

9 BY adding

10 Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation
11 Section(s) 10-1 to 10-9, to be under the new subtitle,
12 “Subtitle 10. Hotels”
13 Baltimore City Code
14 (Edition 2000)

15 **SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
16 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

17 **Baltimore City Code**

18 **Article 15. Licensing and Regulation**

19 **SUBTITLE 10. HOTELS.**

20 **§ 10-1. DEFINITIONS.**

21 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

22 IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Council Bill 14-0464

1 (B) *HUMAN TRAFFICKING*.

2 “HUMAN TRAFFICKING” MEANS THE USE OF FORCE, THREAT OF FORCE, FRAUD, OR
3 COERCION TO:

4 (1) CAUSE AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER 18 TO ENGAGE IN A COMMERCIAL SEX ACT; OR

5 (2) RECRUIT, HARBOR, TRANSPORT, PROVIDE, OR OBTAIN ANY INDIVIDUAL FOR LABOR
6 OR COMMERCIAL SEX.

7 (C) *FINANCE DEPARTMENT; DEPARTMENT*.

8 “FINANCE DEPARTMENT” OR “DEPARTMENT” MEANS THE BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT
9 OF FINANCE.

10 (D) *HOTEL*.

11 “HOTEL” MEANS A BUILDING CONTAINING SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MORE THAN
12 5 PERSONS AND OPEN TO THE TRANSIENT PUBLIC.

13 (E) *PERSON*.

14 “PERSON” MEANS:

15 (1) AN INDIVIDUAL;

16 (2) A PARTNERSHIP, FIRM, ASSOCIATION, CORPORATION, OR OTHER ENTITY OF ANY
17 KIND; OR

18 (3) A RECEIVER, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, FIDUCIARY, OR
19 REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY KIND.

20 **§ 10-2. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.**

21 NO PERSON MAY OPERATE A HOTEL IN BALTIMORE CITY WITHOUT FIRST REGISTERING THE
22 HOTEL WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE ON THE FORM REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

23 **§ 10-3. RULES, REGULATIONS, AND FORMS.**

24 (A) *DEPARTMENT TO ADOPT*.

25 THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT MUST ADOPT RULES, REGULATIONS, AND FORMS TO CARRY
26 OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

27 (B) *FILING*.

28 A COPY OF THE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND FORMS AND OF ANY AMENDMENTS TO THEM
29 MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BEFORE THEY TAKE
30 EFFECT.

Council Bill 14-0464

1 **§ 10-4. {Reserved}**

2 **§ 10-5. HOURLY RENTALS PROHIBITED.**

3 NO PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A HOTEL WITHIN THE CITY MAY RENT OUT SLEEPING
4 ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A PERIOD OF LESS THAN ½ DAY.

5 **§ 10-6. ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING REQUIRED.**

6
7 (A) *HOTEL EMPLOYEES TO BE TRAINED.*

8 ANY PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A HOTEL WITHIN THE CITY MUST PROVIDE
9 TRAINING TO ALL HOTEL EMPLOYEES ON HOW TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING
10 ACTIVITIES AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

11 (B) *POLICE APPROVED VIDEO REQUIRED.*

12 THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION MUST INCLUDE
13 VIEWING A TRAINING VIDEO APPROVED BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER AS APPROPRIATE
14 FOR TRAINING EMPLOYEES ON HOW TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES AND
15 HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

16 (C) *CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.*

17 BEGINNING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2016, ANY PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A HOTEL
18 WITHIN THE CITY MUST ANNUALLY CERTIFY TO THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, NO LATER
19 THAN AUGUST 1ST OF EACH YEAR, THAT ALL OF THEIR EMPLOYEES HAVE COMPLETED THE
20 TRAINING REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.

21 **§§ 10-7 TO 10-8. {Reserved}**

22 **§ 10-9. PENALTIES.**

23 (A) *IN GENERAL.*

24 ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES OR WHO NEGLECTS OR REFUSES TO COMPLY WITH ANY
25 PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR OF ANY RULE OR REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS
26 SUBTITLE IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF
27 NOT MORE THAN \$1000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 12 MONTHS OR BOTH FINE
28 AND IMPRISONMENT.

29 (B) *EACH DAY A SEPARATE OFFENSE.*

30 EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES AFTER NOTIFICATION CONSTITUTES A SEPARATE
31 OFFENSE.

32 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
33 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
34 Ordinance.

Council Bill 14-0464

1 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
2 after the date it is enacted.