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BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND YOUTH COMMITTEE

Mission Statement

The Committee on Education, Workforce and Youth (EWY) is responsible for creating opportunities for our young people, ensuring economic opportunity and prosperity for Baltimore's workforce, and supporting our most vulnerable neighbors. The committee's areas of jurisdiction include public education, labor relations, workforce development, employment, public parks, recreation, and youth affairs. Issue areas include, but are not limited to: education, including adult education, higher education, workforce development, labor, senior affairs, veterans, childcare, accessibility and disability issues, recreation and parks, and historical landmarks.

The Honorable Robert Stokes, Sr. Chairman

PUBLIC HEARING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2022 10:00 AM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Bill #22-0292

Elected Official's Retirement System – Benefits - Eligibility

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OPERATIONS (SGO) Mark Conway – Chair Kristerfer Burnett Zeke Cohen Eric Costello Antonio Glover Phylicia Porter Odette Ramos Staff: Matthew Peters (410-396-1268)

EDUCATION, WORKFORCE, AND YOUTH(EWY)

Robert Stokes - Chair John Bullock Zeke Cohen Antonio Glover Sharon Green Middleton Phylicia Porter James Torrence Staff: Marguerite Currin (443-984-3485)

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(OVERSIGHT) Isaac "Yitzy" Schleifer, Chair Kristerfer Burnett Mark Conway Eric Costello Sharon Green Middleton Odette Ramos James Torrence Staff: Richard Krummerich (410-396-1266) CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT, Mayar



OFFICE OF COUNCIL SERVICES

LARRY E. GREENE, Director 415 City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202 410-396-7215 / Fax: 410-545-7596 email: farry.greene%baltimorecity.gov

BILL SYNOPSIS

Committee: Education, Workforce and Youth

Council Bill: 22-0292

Elected Officials' Retirement System – Benefits - Eligibility

Sponsor:	President Mosby, et al
Introduced:	October 24, 2022

Purpose:

For the purpose of modifying certain provisions of the Elected Officials' Retirement System of the City of Baltimore relating to eligibility for service retirement benefits and deferred vested benefits; making this Ordinance contingent on the ratification of a certain City Charter amendment by a certain date; and providing for a special effective date.

Effective: Contingent on the ratification by the voters of the City at the 2022 general election of an amendment to the City Charter that establishes a 2-term limit for Baltimore City elected officials, including the Mayor, Comptroller, City Council President, and City Council members, wherein none of the above-listed elected officials shall hold office more than 8 years during any 12-year period.

Section 1 of the Ordinance would take effect on January 1, 2023.

Agency Reports		
Law Department	None as of this writing	
Employee Retirement System	None as of this writing	
Retirement Savings Plan	None as of this writing	
City Administrator	None as of this writing	
Department of Finance	None as of this writing	

Analysis

Current Law

Baltimore City Code – Article 22, Retirement Systems – outlines the rules, regulations and mandates for the City's Elected Officials' Retirement System

Background

Question K – Charter Amendment Establishment of a Two-Term Limit for Baltimore City Elected Officials.

It is a question being posed to voters this November, appearing on Baltimore City's ballots.

For the purpose of establishing a two-term limit for Baltimore City elected officials, including the Mayor, Comptroller, City Council President, and City Council members. None of these elected officials shall hold office for more than eight (8) years during any 12-year period. In the event that a candidate for one of these offices is elected to fill a vacancy, that candidate may hold the office for the remainder of their predecessor's term and one consecutive full term thereafter. This amendment would be effective beginning with persons elected in the 2024 Baltimore City election.

If passed, the Mayor, City Council, City Council President, and Comptroller are limited to just two, four-year terms and an amendment to the City Charter would be made to reflect same.

Therefore, if Question K is validated by the voters, Council Bill 22-0292, upon the approval of the Mayor and City Council would update the City's Elected Officials' Retirement System for service retirement and deferred vested benefits for said officials to correspond with the amendment.

Additional Information

Fiscal Note: None

Information Source(s): City Charter, Council Bill 22-092 and the Ballotpedia website.

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Analysis by:Marguerite M. CurrinAnalysis Date:November 1, 2022

Direct Inquiries to: (443) 984-3485

Council Bill 22-0292 Agency Report(s)

None as of this writing

CITY OF BALTIMORE COUNCIL BILL 22-0292 (First Reader)

Introduced by: President Mosby Introduced and read first time: October 24, 2022 Assigned to: Education, Workforce, and Youth Committee REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: City Solicitor, Employee Retirement System, Retirement Savings Plan, City Administrator, Department of Finance A BILL ENTITLED AN ORDINANCE concerning 1 Elected Officials' Retirement System – Benefits – Eligibility 2 FOR the purpose of modifying certain provisions of the Elected Officials' Retirement System of 3 the City of Baltimore relating to eligibility for service retirement benefits and deferred vested 4 benefits; making this Ordinance contingent on the ratification of a certain City Charter 5 amendment by a certain date; and providing for a special effective date. 6 By repealing and reordaining, with amendments 7 Article 22 - Retirement Systems 8 9 Sections 22(a)(1) and 22(d)(1)Baltimore City Code 10 (Edition 2000) 11 SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the 12 13 Laws of Baltimore City read as follows: **Baltimore City Code** 14 15 Article 22. Retirement Systems **Elected Officials' Retirement System** 16 § 22. Benefits. 17 (a) Service retirement benefits. 18 19 (1) *Eligibility*. (i) First became member on or before December 5, 2016. 20 21 An elected official who first became a member on or before December 5, 2016, is entitled to receive, commencing on the 1st day of the month following his or her 22 retirement, a service retirement benefit, calculated as provided in paragraph (3)(i) 23 24 of this subsection, if the member has:

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

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1	(A) at least 12 years of service and attained age 50; or
2	(B) at least 16 years of service.
3	(ii) First became member on or after December 6, 2016.
4 5 6 7 8 9	An elected official who first became a member on or after December 6, 2016, OR, IS A MEMBER AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2022, is entitled to receive, commencing on the 1 st day of the month following his or her retirement, a service retirement benefit, calculated as provided in paragraph (3)(i) of this subsection, if the member has at least [12] 8 years of service and attained age 55.
10	(d) Deferred vested retirement benefit.
11	(1) Eligibility.
12	(i) First became member on or before December 5, 2016.
13 14 15 16	An elected official who first became a member on or before December 5, 2016, is entitled to receive, commencing on the 1 st day of the month immediately following his or her 50 th birthday, a deferred vested retirement benefit, if the member has:
17	(A) at least 12 years of service but less than 16 years of service;
18	(B) left office before attaining age 50; and
19 20	(C) after leaving office, elected not to withdraw his or her accumulated contributions with this System.
21	(ii) First became member on or after December 6, 2016.
22 23 24 25	An elected official who first became a member on or after December 6, 2016, OR, IS A MEMBER AS OF DECEMBER 1, 2022, is entitled to receive, commencing on the 1^{st} day of the month immediately following his or her 55 th birthday, a deferred vested retirement benefit, if the member has:
26	(A) at least [12] 8 years of service;
27	(B) left office before attaining age 55; and
28 29	(C) after leaving office, elected not to withdraw his or her accumulated contributions with this System.
30 31 32 33	SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED , That Section 1 of this Ordinance shall take effect contingent on the ratification by the voters of the City at the 2022 general election of an amendment to the City Charter that establishes a 2-term limit for Baltimore City elected officials, including the Mayor Comptroller City Council President and City Council members, wherein

33 including the Mayor, Comptroller, City Council President, and City Council members, wherein

- 1 none of the above-listed elected officials shall hold office for more than 8 years during any
- 2 12-year period.
- 3 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, That if an amendment to the City Charter that
- 4 establishes a 2-term limit for Baltimore City elected officials, including the Mayor, Comptroller,
- 5 City Council President, and City Council members, wherein none of the above listed elected
- 6 officials shall hold office for more than 8 years during any 12-year period is ratified at the 2022
- 7 general election, Section 1 of this Ordinance shall take effect January 1, 2023.