
CITY OF BALTIMORE

BRANDON M. SCOTT
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

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April 28, 2023

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

Re: City Council Bill 23-0157R – Informational Hearing – Housing Authority
of Baltimore City– Broadband Requirements and Access

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 23-0157R for form and legal sufficiency. The bill is for the purpose of inviting representatives from the Housing Authority of Baltimore City (“HABC”), the Department of Housing and Community Development, Baltimore City Information Technology, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and other interested parties to brief the City Council on HABC’s progress in furnishing broadband internet access to low-income City residents through the Federal Emergency Broadband Benefit program.

The City Council has an inherent power to investigate “in furtherance of its legislative function.” 4 McQuillin Mun. Corp. § 13:7. A resolution is an appropriate way for the City Council of Baltimore to conduct an informational hearing. *See, e.g., Inlet Assocs. v. Assateague House Condominium*, 313 Md. 413, 428 (1988). Therefore, the Law Department approves this Resolution for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Hochstetler
Chief Solicitor

cc: Ebony Thompson, Acting City Solicitor
Nina Themelis, Mayor’s Office of Government Relations
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor
Ashlea Brown, Chief Solicitor
D’Ereka Bolden, Assistant Solicitor
Michelle Toth, Special Solicitor
Teresa Cummings, Assistant Solicitor