CITY OF BALTIMORE

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

MARY H. TALLEY, MBA, SPHR Director 201 E. Baltimore Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

May 8, 2015

The Honorable Bernard "Jack" Young and Members of the Baltimore City Council City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street, Room 406 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

> City of Baltimore Council Bill, 15-0514 Re:

> > "Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System - Benefit Payments"

Dear Council President and Members of the City Council:

The Department of Human Resources (DHR) reviewed the above identified City Council Bill and supports the proposed changes to Baltimore City Code, Article 22, Retirement Systems. The legislation proposes to implement a method that will more accurately value the plan's liabilities and determine the City's annual contribution. There is also language that requires the creation of a comprehensive annual financial report that is prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and published to certain City leaders. Plan members will enjoy greater transparency as they will have access to certain information used to determine the City's contribution to the plan through the Retirement Systems website. Finally, the legislation establishes a monthly payment schedule for benefits payments.

DHR finds these changes are an improvement to the existing processes of the Fire and Police Employees' Retirement System.

> Very truly yours, Mary H. Talley

Mary H. Talley, Director

Department of Human Resources

Kimberly Morton, Deputy Chief of Staff CC:

> LaTonya Bryant Pervis Lee