

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 15-0504

Introduced by: Councilmembers Stokes, Kraft, Costello, Curran, President Young,

Councilmembers Middleton, Scott, Holton, Henry, Reisinger, Clarke, Welch

Introduced and read first time: March 23, 2015

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: August 17, 2015

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

**Collection of Taxes, Fees, etc. –
Warning of Lien and Potential Foreclosure**

FOR the purpose of requiring certain City bills, invoices, and other statements to contain a warning of the potential consequences of a failure to pay; and providing for a special effective date.

BY adding

Article 28 - Taxes

Section(s) 4-4

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

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

Baltimore City Code

Article 28. Taxes

Subtitle 4. Collections

§ 4-4. WARNING OF LIEN AND POTENTIAL FORECLOSURE.

(A) *SCOPE OF SECTION.*

THIS SECTION APPLIES TO EVERY BILL, INVOICE, OR OTHER STATEMENT ISSUED BY OR FOR THE CITY TO COLLECT A TAX, FEE, OR OTHER CHARGE THAT, BY OPERATION OF LAW, CONSTITUTES A LIEN ON REAL PROPERTY.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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1 (B) *WARNING REQUIRED.*

2 EACH BILL, INVOICE, OR OTHER STATEMENT TO WHICH THIS SECTION APPLIES SHALL
3 CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING WARNING, PROMINENTLY AND CONSPICUOUSLY DISPLAYED IN
4 BOLD FACE TYPE:

5 **“WARNING: THESE CHARGES ARE A LIEN ON THE PROPERTY**
6 **IDENTIFIED. FAILURE TO TIMELY PAY THESE CHARGES CAN LEAD TO**
7 **FORECLOSURE OF THE LIEN AND THE SALE AT AUCTION OF YOUR**
8 **PROPERTY. SALE OF THE LIEN AT AUCTION AND POSSIBLE FORECLOSURE**
9 **OF THE PROPERTY IDENTIFIED. FORECLOSURE CAN RESULT IN THE LOSS**
10 **OF OWNERSHIP OF THE PROPERTY.”**

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

14 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th 90th
15 day after the date it is enacted.

Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to Her Honor, the Mayor,

this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City