



Catherine Pugh
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Darryl De Sousa
Police Commissioner Designee

January 25, 2018

Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400, City Hall
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Attention: Natawna B. Austin, Executive Secretary

**Re: City Council Bill No. 18- 0178
Indoor Smoking- Hookah Lounges**

Dear Council President Young and Members of the City Council:

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed Council Bill No. 18-0178. This bill is for the purpose of excepting hookah lounges from the City's indoor-smoking restrictions under certain conditions and repealing two obsolete exceptions that have been preempted by more stringent State laws.

Hookah lounges do not currently adhere to the required exceptions and Baltimore City's indoor smoking laws prohibit the smoking of tobacco and other substances indoors. As City Council Bill No. 18- 0178 aims to exempt hookah lounges indoor smoking restrictions, BPD respectfully defers to the Baltimore City Health Department and the Baltimore City Fire Department. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. BPD looks forward to working with the City Council on this matter.

Sincerely,



James A. Gillis
Chief of Staff