
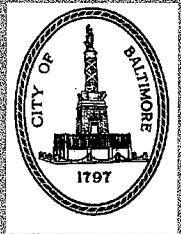


FROM	Name & Title	Comptroller Joan M. Pratt, CPA 	CITY OF BALTIMORE MEMO	
	Agency Name & Address	Office of the Comptroller 204 City Hall 100 N. Holliday Street		
	Subject	City Council Bill 18-0223 Equity Assessment Program		

To: Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Attn: Ms. Natawana Austin
409 City Hall

Date: June 13, 2018

As requested, the Office of the Comptroller has reviewed City Council Bill #18-0223, for the purpose of providing for the implementation of an Equity Assessment Program for Baltimore City requiring City agencies to assess existing and proposed policies and practices for disparate outcomes based on race, gender or income and to proactively develop policies; providing for the adoption of rules and regulations to carry out this Program; requiring certain notices and reports; and generally relating to the goal of eliminating structural and institutional racism and other forms of discrimination based on immutable characteristics.

On May 31, 2018, the Planning Commission had a briefing on the subject bill. The Office of the Comptroller agrees with the recommendation that instead of the Planning Department, perhaps the Department of Human Resources should be the coordinating agency and provide training to agencies to implement this Program. However, we are concerned about how this initiative will impact for agencies with a limited budget and staff, including the Comptroller's Office and its departments. We believe that the implementation of this bill should be phased to allow sufficient time to train staff, develop specific details for notices and reports and identify resources as well as commitments to fund the effective operation of the Program.

The Office of the Comptroller supports the concept of City Council Bill 18-0223 with the amendments suggested by the Planning Commission and the Law Department.

cc: Mr. Kyron Banks