

**CITY OF BALTIMORE**  
**RESOLUTION \_\_\_\_\_**  
**Council Bill 18-0271**  
**(Charter Amendment)**

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Introduced by: President Young and Councilmembers Stokes, Dorsey, Clarke, Scott, Costello,  
Bullock, Burnett, Cohen, Sneed, Reisinger, Pinkett, Henry  
Introduced and read first time: August 6, 2018  
Assigned to: Judiciary and Legislative Investigations Committee

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Committee Report: Favorable  
Council action: Adopted  
Read second time: August 6, 2018

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**A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL CONCERNING**

**Charter Amendment – Inalienability of Sewer and Water-Supply Systems**

FOR the purpose of declaring the inalienability of the City’s sewer system and water-supply system; excepting the sewer and water-supply systems, their operations and uses, from the Charter provisions otherwise authorizing the grant of franchises or rights relating to the operation or use of public property or places; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

BY proposing to amend  
Article VIII - Franchises  
Section 1  
Baltimore City Charter  
(1996 Edition)

**SECTION 1. BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the City Charter is proposed to be amended to read as follows:

**Baltimore City Charter**

**Article VIII. Franchises**

**§ 1. Authority to grant.**

The title of the City in and to its waterfront, wharf property, land under water, public landings, wharves and docks, streets, lanes, and parks, AND ITS SEWER SYSTEM AND WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, AS DESCRIBED IN ARTICLE VII, §§ 33 AND 34 OF THIS CHARTER, is hereby declared to be inalienable.

[The] WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CITY’S SEWER SYSTEM AND WATER-SUPPLY SYSTEM, THE City may grant for a limited time and subject to the limitations and conditions contained in the Charter, specific franchises or rights in or relating to any of the public property or places mentioned in the preceding sentence; provided that such grant is in compliance with the requirements of the Charter, and that the terms and conditions of the grant shall have first been authorized and set forth in an ordinance duly adopted.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.  
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken by amendment.

**Council Bill 18-0271**

1 Every such grant shall specifically set forth and define the nature, extent and duration of the  
2 franchise or right thereby granted, and no franchise or right shall pass by implication under  
3 any such grant; and, notwithstanding any such grant the City shall at all times have and retain  
4 the power and right to reasonably regulate in the public interest the exercise of the franchise  
5 or right so granted; and the City shall not have the power by grant or ordinance to divest  
6 itself of the right or power so to regulate the exercise of such franchise or right.

7 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this proposed amendment to the City  
8 Charter be submitted to the legal and qualified voters of Baltimore City, for adoption or  
9 rejection, in accordance with Article XI-A, § 5 of the Maryland Constitution, in the form  
10 specified by the City Solicitor.

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\_\_

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Mayor, Baltimore City