

The Baltimore City Department of  
**HOUSING & COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT**

## MEMORANDUM

To: The Honorable President and Members of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary

From: Michael Braverman, Housing Commissioner *MB*

Date: December 7, 2018

Re: **City Council Bill 18-308, Community Relations – Housing Discrimination – Source of Income**

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The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 18-0308, for the purpose of prohibiting, as unlawful discriminatory housing practices, certain practices based on source of income; defining certain terms; clarifying and confirming related provisions; and generally related to community relations and discriminatory practices.

If enacted, this bill will make it unlawful for landlords to discriminate against tenants based on their source of income. HCD supports the passage of City Council Bill 18-0308.

While HCD recognizes the importance of protecting tenants in Baltimore City from discrimination based on their source of income, tenants often search for housing on a regional basis. In order to protect tenants throughout the region from said discrimination, HCD believes that similar legislation must also be passed at the state level. HCD strongly supports City Council Bill 18-0117R, Request for State Action – Prohibiting Source of Income Discrimination in Housing, for the purpose of requesting that the Maryland General Assembly add “source of income” to Maryland’s fair housing law and thus prohibit source of income discrimination in housing.

MB:td

cc: Mr. Kyron Banks, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*