

CITY OF BALTIMORE

CATHERINE E. PUGH, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW

101 City Hall  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

April 22, 2019

The Honorable President and Members  
of the Baltimore City Council  
c/o Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 19-0357 –Fire and Police Employees’ Retirement System -  
Interest, Service Credits, Death Benefits, Direct Deposit, and Technical  
Corrections

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0357. Bill 357 proposes to:

- repeal certain obsolete and obsolescent provisions;
- changing the definition of regular interest for valuation purposes;
- clarify the crediting of military service under certain circumstances;
- modify the calculation of the cost of purchasing and transferring prior system service, non-credited City service, former Maryland Police Corps service, and service earned for employment covered under a former non-City pension;
- expand the definition of “minor child” for certain purposes;
- allow certain spousal beneficiaries age 70 and over to remarry without penalty of losing benefits;
- allow new beneficiary elections and survivorship option elections within certain time periods;
- require that, after a certain date and subject to certain exceptions, periodic benefit payments be made electronically;
- define certain terms and provide for a special effective date.

Article II, Section 24 gives authority to the Mayor and City Council to establish a pension system and provides for conditions for the applicability and operation of the system. City Council Bill 19-0357 is an appropriate exercise of that authority.

Accordingly, the Law Department approves Council Bill 19-0357 for form and legal sufficiency.

Sincerely,



Elena R. DiPietro  
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre Davis, City Solicitor  
Jeff Amoros  
Michael Huber  
Hilary Ruley, Assistant Solicitor  
Victor Tervalá, Assistant Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor