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CITY OF BALTIMORE

BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG  
Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
ANDRE M. DAVIS, CITY SOLICITOR  
100 N. HOLLIDAY STREET  
SUITE 101, CITY HALL  
BALTIMORE, MD 21202

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February 13, 2020

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

Re: City Council Bill 20-0492 – Charter Amendment – City Council – Reduction in Size

Dear President and City Council Members:

The Law Department has reviewed City Council Bill 19-0492 for form and legal sufficiency. The bill reduces the size of the City Council. It also provides for three members to be elected at large and requires the President of the City Council, the Council Vice-President, and the Council's representative to the Planning Commission be at-large members of the Council. The bill corrects, conforms, and clarifies related provisions and submits the amendment to the qualified voters of the City for adoption or rejection.

The substance of the bill presents no legal impediments.

Under Article XI-A, Section 5 of the Maryland Constitution, a resolution of the Mayor and City Council, such as this City Council Bill, is an appropriate method of initiating an amendment to the Baltimore City Charter. The Law Department, therefore, approves the resolution for form and legal sufficiency as drafted.

Sincerely,

  
Victor K. Tervalá  
Chief Solicitor

cc: Andre M. Davis, City Solicitor  
Dana Moore, Deputy Solicitor  
Matt Stegman, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Caylin Young, President's Legislative Director  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor, General Counsel Division  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Ashlea Brown, Assistant Solicitor