



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: March 16, 2020

Re: **City Council Bill 20-0495 Pesticide Control and Regulation**

The Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has reviewed City Council Bill 20-0495 for the purpose of regulating the use and application of pesticides in Baltimore City; defining certain terms; requiring certain notices at the time of pesticide purchase; requiring certain notices prior to and after pesticide application; requiring marker placement after certain pesticide applications; prohibiting the use of certain pesticides in specified areas; prohibiting the use and application of glyphosate and chlorpyrifos; prohibiting neonicotinoid pesticide use on City-owned property; establishing certain penalties; and providing for a special effective date.

If enacted, the legislation would require the Health Commissioner to adopt rules and regulations to carry out pesticide regulation and control.

The current Building, Fire and Related Codes of Baltimore City, 2015 edition, outlines rodenticide procedure in Sections 3314.1 "Certification Required" and 3314.2 "Treatment Required."

Before any structure may be demolished, moved to another site, or substantially rehabilitated, the applicant for a permit must provide certification from a pesticide applicator licensed by the State of Maryland that all areas of the structure and its lot are free from rodent infestation. A certification of treatment and abatement of all infestation must accompany the permit application. Structures or lots found to be infested must be treated by a licensed pesticide applicator before demolition, moving, or rehabilitation.

DHCD recommends Section 19-302 (B) "Permitted Applications" be amended to allow for rodenticide procedures currently required by the Building, Fire and Related Codes of Baltimore City.

If amended, DHCD would have **no objection** to the passage of City Council Bill 20-0495.

MB:sm

cc: Mr. Blendy, Nicholas, *Mayor's Office of Government Relations*