

*BERNARD C. "JACK" YOUNG*  
*Mayor*  
*250 City Hall, 100 North Holliday Street*  
*Baltimore, Maryland 21202*

November 16, 2020

The Honorable Brandon Scott, President  
Baltimore City Council  
Attn: Natawna Austin, Executive Secretary  
Room 409, City Hall  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Re: City Council Bill 20-0544 – COVID-19 Laid-Off Employees Right of Recall

Dear President Scott:

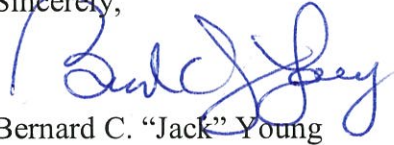
After careful consideration and for the reasons stated in this letter, I am vetoing City Council Bill 20-0544 in accordance with Article IV, Section 5 of the Baltimore City Charter.

The Baltimore City Law Department has had several opportunities to review this legislation and consistently found it to not be legally sufficient. Among the concerns raised by the Solicitor's office are that the bill is possibly preempted by Federal law, that it creates a private right to action without authority by the Maryland General Assembly, and that it violates the Contracts Clause of the United States Constitution.

While I appreciate the intent of this bill and agree that the City needs to continue doing everything it can to help our service workers weather the COVID-19 pandemic, I cannot in good conscience sign this particular piece of legislation which overreaches the authority of the Council and of City Government.

For the above stated reasons, I have vetoed City Council Bill 20-0544.

Sincerely,



Bernard C. "Jack" Young  
Mayor

CC: Honorable Members of the City Council  
Matthew Stegman, Mayor's Legislative Liaison  
Michael Huber, Chief of Staff to the Council President  
Elena DiPietro, Chief Solicitor  
Hilary Ruley, Chief Solicitor  
Victor Tervalá, Chief Solicitor  
Natawna Austin, Chief Clerk