

CITY OF BALTIMORE
ORDINANCE _____
Council Bill 19-0428

Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett, President Scott, Councilmembers Cohen, McCray, Dorsey, Henry, Middleton, Pinkett, Bullock, Costello, Clarke, Stokes, Reisinger, Sneed, Schleifer

Introduced and read first time: August 19, 2019

Assigned to: Public Safety Committee

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Council action: Adopted

Read second time: November 2, 2020

AN ORDINANCE CONCERNING

Human-Trafficking Notice Requirements – ~~City-Owned and -Occupied Buildings~~
Modifications

FOR the purpose of requiring city-owned and -occupied buildings to place a notice regarding the human-trafficking prevention hotline certain locations; deleting an obsolete reference to the “Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation”; providing that certain businesses may obtain the required human-trafficking notices from the United States Department of Homeland Security’s Blue Campaign website; and conforming and clarifying related provisions.

BY repealing and re-ordaining, with amendments

Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation

~~Section 42-1(g)~~

Sections 42-1(g) and 42-2

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

~~BY repealing and re-ordaining, without amendments~~

~~Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation~~

~~Section 42-2~~

~~Baltimore City Code~~

~~(Edition 2000)~~

BY adding

Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation

Section 42-2.1

Baltimore City Code

(Edition 2000)

SECTION 1. BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE, That the
Laws of Baltimore City read as follows:

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Underlining indicates matter added to the bill by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from existing law by amendment.

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Baltimore City Code

Article 15. Licensing and Regulation

Subtitle 42. Human-Trafficking Notice Requirements

§ 42-1. Definitions.

(g) *Person.*

(1) *IN GENERAL.*

“Person” means:

(I) [(1)] an individual;

(II) [(2)] a partnership, firm, association, corporation, or other entity of any kind;
or

(III) [(3)] a receiver, trustee, guardian, personal representative, fiduciary, or
representative of any kind.

(2) *EXCLUSIONS.*

“PERSON” DOES NOT INCLUDE, UNLESS OTHERWISE EXPRESSLY PROVIDED, A
GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY OR AN INSTRUMENTALITY OR UNIT OF A GOVERNMENTAL
ENTITY.

§ 42-2. Human trafficking prevention signs to be posted.

(a) *Applicability.*

The requirements of this section apply only to:

(1) adult-entertainment businesses;

(2) food service facilities;

(3) hotels; and

(4) permit holders.

(b) *In general.*

(1) The owner of any business described in subsection (a) of this section must post a sign
that states the following:

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1 “REPORT HUMAN TRAFFICKING:

2 National Human Trafficking Resource Center

3 **Call 1-888-373-7888 or text “BeFree” [(233722)] (233733)**

4 CALL FOR HELP IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW:

- 5 • is being forced to have sex without consent
6 • has had an ID or documents taken away
7 • is being threatened by or is in debt to an employer
8 • wants to leave a job but cannot freely do so

9 TOLL-FREE ‡ 24/7 ‡ CONFIDENTIAL ‡ INTERPRETERS AVAILABLE

10 This sign is required by Baltimore City law”

11 (2) The sign must:

- 12 (i) be at least 3 by 5 inches in size;
13 (ii) contain the text required under paragraph (1) of this subsection in English and
14 Spanish; and
15 (iii) draw attention to the phone number of the National Human Trafficking
16 Resource Center Hotline by showing the phone number in bold type.

17 (3) The owner of a business as provided in subsection (a) of this section may meet the
18 requirements of this subsection by creating their own signs, using a font size of not
19 less than 30 points for the hotline numbers and a font size of not less than 12 points
20 for the body text, or using copies of the signs created and made available online by
21 [the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation under Maryland
22 Business Regulation Article § 15-207 if the signs are altered to indicate that they are
23 required by Baltimore City law rather than State law] THE UNITED STATES
24 DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY’S BLUE CAMPAIGN WEBSITE.

25 (c) *Sign location.*

- 26 (1) Adult-entertainment businesses and food service facilities must post a sign required
27 under this section in a conspicuous place in clear view of the public and employees
28 where similar notices are customarily posted and on the back of the door at the
29 entrance to each restroom.
30 (2) Permit holders must post the sign required under this section in a conspicuous place
31 in clear view of the public.
32 (3) Hotels must post the sign required under this section on the back of each hotel room
33 entry door.

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1 (d) *Hotels to certify.*

2 Beginning in calendar year 2020, any person who owns or operates a hotel within the City
3 must annually certify to the Housing Commissioner, in the form and manner required by
4 the Department of Housing and Community Development, no later than December 31 of
5 each year, that the hotel is in compliance with this section.

6 **§ 42-2.1. CITY-OWNED AND -OCCUPIED BUILDINGS.**

7 (A) IN GENERAL.

8 ~~IN EVERY CITY-OWNED~~ EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, IN EVERY
9 CITY-OWNED OR -OCCUPIED BUILDING, AT LEAST 1 SIGN DESCRIBED IN § 42-2(B) OF THIS
10 SUBTITLE MUST BE POSTED IN EACH:

11 (1) LOCATION WHERE THE NOTICE REQUIRED BY SUBTITLE 4 {"WAGES AND HOURS"},
12 PART V {"ENFORCEMENT"} OF THE STATE LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT ARTICLE IS
13 POSTED;

14 (2) (H) PUBLIC RESTROOM; AND

15 (3) (Z) PUBLIC ENTRANCEWAY OR MAIN LOBBY TO THE BUILDING OR PORTION OF THE
16 BUILDING OCCUPIED BY THE CITY.

17 (B) FACILITIES OCCUPIED BY THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

18 (1) THE DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BALTIMORE
19 CITY BOARD OF SCHOOL COMMISSIONERS, MAY DEVELOP ALTERNATE, AGE-
20 APPROPRIATE HUMAN-TRAFFICKING NOTICE SIGNAGE FOR USE IN CITY-OWNED
21 FACILITIES OCCUPIED BY THE BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM.

22 (2) AT A MINIMUM, ANY SIGN DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL MEET THE
23 FORM REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH IN § 42-2(B)(2) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

24 (C) EXCEPTIONS.

26 THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY CITY-OWNED BUILDING THAT IS VACANT.

27 **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That the catchlines contained in this Ordinance
28 are not law and may not be considered to have been enacted as a part of this or any prior
29 Ordinance.

30 **SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30th day
31 after the date it is enacted.

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Certified as duly passed this _____ day of _____, 20__

President, Baltimore City Council

Certified as duly delivered to His Honor, the Mayor,
this _____ day of _____, 20__

Chief Clerk

Approved this _____ day of _____, 20__

Mayor, Baltimore City