



HEARING NOTES

Bill: 21-0017R

Investigative Hearing – Arson and Fire Fatality Awareness:
Re-instituting the Baltimore City Joint Arson Task Force

Committee: Public Safety and Government Operations

Chaired By: Councilmember Mark Conway

Hearing Date: July 7, 2021

Time (Beginning): 1:00 p.m.

Time (Ending): 2:30 p.m.

Location: Webex Virtual Hearing

Total Attendance: Approximately 35 - 40 people

Committee Members in Attendance:

- Mark Conway
Kris Burnett
Eric Costello
Zeke Cohen
Odette Ramos

Bill Synopsis in the file? [X] YES [ ] NO [ ] N/A
Attendance sheet in the file? [ ] YES [ ] NO [X] N/A
Agency reports read? [X] YES [ ] NO [ ] N/A
Hearing televised or audio-digitally recorded? [X] YES [ ] NO [ ] N/A
Certification of advertising/posting notices in the file? [ ] YES [ ] NO [X] N/A
Evidence of notification to property owners? [ ] YES [ ] NO [X] N/A
Final vote taken at this hearing? [X] YES [ ] NO [ ] N/A
Motioned by: Councilmember Burnett
Seconded by: Councilmember Ramos
Final Vote: 5 - 0 - 2

Major Issues Discussed

- 1. Chairman Conway greeted the audience and deferred to the sponsor.
2. Councilman Burnett provided opening remarks.
3. The Law Department read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
4. The Fire Department read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
5. The Department of Finance read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
6. The Police Department read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
7. The State’s Attorney’s Office read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
8. The Health Department read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
9. The Department of Housing and Community Development read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
10. The Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.

11. The Baltimore City Public School System read their bill report into the public record and provided comments.
12. The committee asked questions of the agency representatives.
13. There no public testimony.
14. The committee approved the bill as favorable.

**Further Study**

**Was further study requested?  
If yes, describe.**

Yes  No

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Samuel Johnson , Committee Staff  
**(410) 396-1091**

Date: July 7, 2021