



## Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 22-0287      **Version:** 0      **Name:** Real Estate Practices - Disclosures - Historic Districts

**Type:** Ordinance      **Status:** Enacted

**File created:** 10/3/2022      **In control:** Baltimore City Council

**On agenda:**      **Final action:** 9/18/2023

**Enactment date:**      **Enactment #:** 23-259

**Title:** Real Estate Practices - Disclosures - Historic Districts  
For the purpose of requiring certain disclosures in order to sell a property that is located in a historic district; and providing for certain penalties.

**Sponsors:** John Bullock, Sharon Green Middleton, James Torrence

**Indexes:** Historic District, Real Estate

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. 22-0287~1st Reader, 2. Law 22-0287, 3. CHAP MEMO - CCBill 22-0287, 4. CCB #22-0287 - Planning Commission, 5. 22-0287 BDC, 6. DHCD 22-0287, 7. BMZA 22-0287, 8. Bill Synopsis 22-0287, 9. Agenda 22-0287, 10. Minutes 22-0287, 11. Hearing Notes 22-0287, 12. Attendance 22-0287, 13. Voting Record 22-0287, 14. Voting Record 22-0287, 15. 2nd Reader Amendment 22-0287(1)~1st (Bullock - Floor), 16. 2nd Reader Amendment 22-0287(1)~1st (ECD), 17. 22-0287~3rd Reader, 18. 22-0287 Signed, 19. Completed Ordinance 22-0287

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
10/2/2023	0	Mayor	Signed by Mayor	
7/17/2023	0	Baltimore City Council	Approved and Sent to the Mayor	
6/26/2023	0	Baltimore City Council	3rd Reader, for final passage	
6/26/2023	0	Economic and Community Development	Recommended Favorably with Amendment	
6/13/2023	0	Economic and Community Development	Recommended Favorably with Amendment	Pass
5/15/2023	0	Economic and Community Development	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
10/6/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Commission for Historical & Architectural Preservation	
10/6/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Planning Commission	
10/6/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Housing and Community Development	
10/6/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Board of Municipal and Zoning Appeals	
10/6/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to City Solicitor	
10/6/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Baltimore Development Corporation	
10/3/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Assigned	
10/3/2022	0	Baltimore City Council	Introduced	

**Explanation:** Capitals indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

\* **Warning:** This is an unofficial, introductory copy of the bill.  
The official copy considered by the City Council is the first reader copy.

**Introductory\***  
**City of Baltimore**  
**Council Bill**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Bullock, Middleton  
At the request of: Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning  
**Real Estate Practices - Disclosures - Historic Districts**  
For the purpose of requiring certain disclosures in order to sell a property that is located in a historic district;  
and providing for certain penalties.

By adding  
Article 2 - Consumer Protection  
Section 14-7  
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:

**Baltimore City Code**

**Article 2. Consumer Protection**

**Subtitle 14. Real Estate Practices - Disclosures**

**§ 14-7. Historic districts.**

(a) *In general.*

On or before entering into a contract for the sale of any real property, the seller must disclose to the  
buyer in writing whether the property is located in a Historical and Architectural Preservation District as  
defined under Article 6, § 1-1(f) {"Definitions - *Historical and Architectural Preservation District;*  
*Preservation District; District*"} of the Code.

(b) *Form of disclosure.*

The disclosure required by this section shall read as stated:

**HISTORIC DISTRICT - DISCLOSURE**

This property is [ ] is not [ ] located within a Historical and Architectural Preservation District.

\_\_\_\_\_ Seller's Initials

**Before beginning any exterior alterations to a structure located within a Historical and Architectural  
Preservation District (a "historic district") the owner of the property and the structure must first  
secure an Authorization to Proceed ("ATP") from the Commission for Historical and Architectural**

**Preservation (“CHAP”).**

Structures that are located within a historic district are designated as being part of a neighborhood that is of particular historical significance and architectural character.

CHAP is responsible for promoting the preservation of structures located in a historic district under Article 6 {“Historical and Architectural Preservation”} of the City Code.

Relevant excerpts from Article 6 of the City Code establishing the requirements stated above are provided below.

**§ 8-2. Building permit required.**

(a) *Exterior structures.*

No person may undertake, cause, or allow any of the following regulated alterations for or with respect to any structure located within an historic district without first obtaining a permit to do so from the Building Official:

- (1) any reconstruction, alteration, or removal of any exterior architectural feature;
- (2) any change in an exterior color, whether by painting or other means;
- (3) any exterior excavation;
- (4) the construction or erection of any exterior building, fence, wall, or other structure of any kind; or
- (5) any exterior demolition.

**§ 8-4. CHAP to review.**

(c) *CHAP approval prerequisite for permit.*

The Building Official may not issue a permit for any regulated alteration unless the Commission first issues an Authorization to Proceed.

Learn more about CHAP and the process for securing an ATP:

Commission for Historical and Architectural Preservation  
[insert mailing address]  
[insert telephone number]  
[insert website address]

(c) *Penalty.*

Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, on conviction, is subject to a fine of not more than \$500 for each offense.

**Section 2. And be it further ordained,** That this Ordinance takes effect on the 30<sup>th</sup> day after the date it is enacted.