



Legislation Text

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate matter added to existing law.  
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

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INTRODUCTORY\*

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL

Introduced by: Councilmember Kraft  
A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning  
**Hotels - Human Trafficking Prevention**

FOR the purpose of requiring the registration of all hotels in the City; prohibiting hotels from renting out sleeping accommodations for a period of less than ½ day; requiring that all hotel employees receive training in how to identify human trafficking activities and human trafficking victims; requiring hotels to certify that all employees have been given anti-human trafficking training; defining certain terms; providing for certain penalties; and generally relating to the operation of hotels in Baltimore City.

BY adding  
Article 15 - Licensing and Regulation  
Section(s) 10-1 to 10-9, to be under the new subtitle,  
“Subtitle 10. Hotels”  
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 15. Licensing and Regulation

SUBTITLE 10. HOTELS.

§ 10-1. DEFINITIONS.

(A) IN GENERAL.

IN THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

“HUMAN TRAFFICKING” MEANS THE USE OF FORCE, THREAT OF FORCE, FRAUD, OR COERCION TO:

- (1) CAUSE AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER 18 TO ENGAGE IN A COMMERCIAL SEX ACT; OR
- (2) RECRUIT, HARBOR, TRANSPORT, PROVIDE, OR OBTAIN ANY INDIVIDUAL FOR LABOR OR COMMERCIAL SEX.

(C) FINANCE DEPARTMENT; DEPARTMENT.

“FINANCE DEPARTMENT” OR “DEPARTMENT” MEANS THE BALTIMORE CITY DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE.

(D) HOTEL.

“HOTEL” MEANS A BUILDING CONTAINING SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR MORE THAN 5 PERSONS AND OPEN TO THE TRANSIENT PUBLIC.

(E) PERSON.

“PERSON” MEANS:

- (1) AN INDIVIDUAL;
- (2) A PARTNERSHIP, FIRM, ASSOCIATION, CORPORATION, OR OTHER ENTITY OF ANY KIND; OR
- (3) A RECEIVER, TRUSTEE, GUARDIAN, PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE, FIDUCIARY, OR REPRESENTATIVE OF ANY KIND.

§ 10-2. REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

NO PERSON MAY OPERATE A HOTEL IN BALTIMORE CITY WITHOUT FIRST REGISTERING THE HOTEL WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE ON THE FORM REQUIRED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

§ 103. RULES, REGULATIONS, AND FORMS.

(A) DEPARTMENT TO ADOPT.

THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT MUST ADOPT RULES, REGULATIONS, AND FORMS TO CARRY OUT THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) FILING.

A COPY OF THE RULES, REGULATIONS, AND FORMS AND OF ANY AMENDMENTS TO THEM MUST BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BEFORE THEY TAKE EFFECT.

§ 104. {Reserved}

§ 105. HOURLY RENTALS PROHIBITED.

NO PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A HOTEL WITHIN THE CITY MAY RENT OUT SLEEPING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR A PERIOD OF LESS THAN ½ DAY.

§ 106. ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING REQUIRED.

(A) HOTEL EMPLOYEES TO BE TRAINED.

ANY PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A HOTEL WITHIN THE CITY MUST PROVIDE TRAINING TO ALL HOTEL EMPLOYEES ON HOW TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

(B) POLICE APPROVED VIDEO REQUIRED.

THE ANTI-TRAFFICKING TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION MUST INCLUDE VIEWING A TRAINING VIDEO APPROVED BY THE POLICE COMMISSIONER AS APPROPRIATE FOR TRAINING EMPLOYEES ON HOW TO IDENTIFY HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING VICTIMS.

(C) CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.

BEGINNING IN CALENDAR YEAR 2016, ANY PERSON WHO OWNS OR OPERATES A HOTEL WITHIN THE CITY MUST ANNUALLY CERTIFY TO THE POLICE COMMISSIONER, NO LATER THAN AUGUST 1ST OF EACH YEAR, THAT ALL OF THEIR EMPLOYEES HAVE COMPLETED THE TRAINING REQUIRED BY THIS SECTION.

§§ 107 TO 10-8. {Reserved}

§ 109. PENALTIES.

(A) IN GENERAL.

ANY PERSON WHO VIOLATES OR WHO NEGLECTS OR REFUSES TO COMPLY WITH ANY PROVISION OF THIS SUBTITLE OR OF ANY RULE OR REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND, ON CONVICTION, IS SUBJECT TO A FINE OF NOT MORE THAN \$1000 OR IMPRISONMENT FOR NOT MORE THAN 12 MONTHS OR BOTH FINE AND IMPRISONMENT.

(B) EACH DAY A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

EACH DAY THAT A VIOLATION CONTINUES AFTER NOTIFICATION CONSTITUTES A SEPARATE OFFENSE.

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

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

it is enacted.

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