



Legislation Text

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File #: 21-0164, Version: 0

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**Introductory\***

**City of Baltimore  
Council Bill**

Introduced by: Councilmember Burnett

A Bill Entitled

An Ordinance concerning

**Decennial Fire and Emergency Medical Services Redistricting Plan**

For the purpose of requiring the Baltimore City Fire Chief to prepare a Decennial Fire and Emergency Medical Services Redistricting Plan; requiring the Fire Chief to present the Plan to the Mayor and City Council; requiring the Plan to be approved by resolution of the Mayor and City Council; allowing the Mayor and City Council to amend the Plan under certain circumstances; and generally relating to redistricting the Baltimore City fire battalions and emergency medical services districts.

By adding

Article 9 - Fire Suppression and Prevention

Section(s) 2A-1 to 2A-3 to be under the new subtitle designation,  
“Subtitle 2A. Decennial Fire and EMS Redistricting Plan”

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 9. Fire Suppression and Prevention**

**Subtitle 2A. Decennial Fire and Emergency Medical  
Services Redistricting Plan.**

**§ 2A-1. Definitions.**

(a) *In general.*

In this subtitle, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

(b) *Battalion.*

“Battalion” means a unit of fire suppression personnel that is assigned to a geographical location.

(c) *Department.*

“Department” means the Baltimore City Fire Department.

(d) *District.*

“District” means a unit of Emergency Medical Services (“EMS”) personnel that is assigned to a geographical location.

(e) *Plan.*

“Plan” means the Decennial Fire and EMS Redistricting Plan established under this subtitle.

**§ 2A-2. Plan requirements.**

Following each decennial census of the United States, the Fire Chief shall:

(1) review:

- (I) decennial census population and housing data from the United States Census Bureau;
- (ii) fire suppression call volume trends;
- (iii) EMS call volume trends;
- (iv) fire suppression response times;
- (v) EMS response times; and
- (vi) any other information deemed necessary by the fire chief;

(2) based upon the data specified in paragraph (1) of this section, include in the Plan strategies to:

- (I) adjust the geographic boundaries and composition of each fire battalion and EMS district;  
and
- (ii) reallocate the resources and personnel of the Department among the battalions and districts;  
and

(3) present the Plan to the Mayor and City Council within 1 year from the issuance of the decennial census population and housing data by the United States Census Bureau.

**§ 2A-3. Approval process.**

(a) *Approval of the Plan.*

Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Mayor and City Council may approve the Plan by resolution within 180 days from the presentation of the Plan.

(b) *Amendments to the Plan.*

The Mayor and City Council Members may propose amendments to the Plan:

- (1) prior to passage of the resolution described in subsection (a) of this section; and
- (2) within 180 days from the presentation of the Plan.

(c) *Approval of amendments.*

Amendments proposed in accordance with subsection (b) of this section become effective on approval by a majority vote of the City Council.

(d) *Effective date.*

- (1) A Plan approved under this section is effective immediately.
- (2) If the Plan is not approved within 180 days after presentation of the Plan, the Plan, as originally presented by the Fire Chief to the Mayor and City Council, will go into effect.

**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.