

# City of Baltimore

City Council City Hall, Room 408 100 North Holliday Street Baltimore, Maryland 21202

## Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: 21-0007R Version: 0 Name: Investigative Hearing - Water Billing System

Type: City Council Resolution Status: In Committee

File created: 1/11/2021 In control: Rules and Legislative Oversight

On agenda: Final action: Enactment date: Enactment #:

Title: Investigative Hearing - Water Billing System

For the purpose of inviting the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works and the Director of the Department of Finance to address the crippling problems with and describe solutions for the water billing system described in the recent report jointly published by the Baltimore City and Baltimore

County Inspectors General.

**Sponsors:** Mark Conway, Odette Ramos, Kristerfer Burnett, President Nicholas J. Mosby, Danielle N. McCray,

Sharon Green Middleton, John T. Bullock, James Torrence, Zeke Cohen, Antonio Glover, Phylicia

Porter, Robert Stokes, Sr.

Indexes: Investigative Hearing, Water Bills

**Code sections:** 

Attachments: 1. 21-0007R~1st Reader, 2. Law 21-0007R, 3. Treva Shields testimony - 21-0007R, 4. Lindsay Jones

testimony - 21-0007R, 5. Finance 21-0007R, 6. DPW 21-0007R, 7. 21-0007R Statement Atlantic Realty Group, 8. Coleman, Anthony - 21-0007R, 9. EMAILS RECEIVED FOR CITY COUNCIL BILL 21-0007R, 10. Gonzalez, Rachel - 21-0007R, 11. PBRC - 21-0007R, 12. Testimony Registration - 03.25.21, 13. Wiggins, Stephanie - 21-0007R, 14. Rosencheck - 21-007R Testimony, 15. Public Testimony Registration - 21-007R, 16. Hughes - 21-007R Testimony, 17. Fleming - 21-007R

Testimony

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
11/1/2021	0	Rules and Legislative Oversight	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
3/22/2021	0	Rules and Legislative Oversight	Scheduled for a Public Hearing	
1/14/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to City Solicitor	
1/14/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Public Works	
1/14/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Refer to Dept. of Finance	
1/13/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Assigned	
1/11/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Assigned	
1/11/2021	0	Baltimore City Council	Introduced	

\* 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 R
(Resolution)

Introduced by: Councilmembers Conway, Ramos, Burnett, and President Mosby

#### A Resolution Entitled

A Council Resolution concerning

### **Investigative Hearing - Water Billing System**

For the purpose of inviting the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works and the Director of the Department of Finance to address the crippling problems with and describe solutions for the water billing system described in the recent report jointly published by the Baltimore City and Baltimore County Inspectors General.

#### **Recitals**

**Whereas**, An investigation by the Office of the Inspector General of Baltimore City and Office of the Inspector General of Baltimore County found a multitude of problems with the Baltimore City water billing system;

Whereas, The report by the Inspectors General, published on December 8, 2020, found that over 22,000 digital water meters installed beginning in 2014 in the City and County are dysfunctional;

Whereas, The report also found that the Department of Public Works failed to respond to thousands of complaints regarding water billing problems and that problems with the water billing system persist, despite the City having spent \$133 million in the last decade to make the system functional;

Whereas, City Council members and all City residents are deeply frustrated by the water billing system problems; and

**Whereas**, The City Council must learn why water billing problems as described in the report persist and how such problems can be overcome.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the City Council of Baltimore, That the City Council invites the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works and the Director of the Department of Finance to address the crippling problems with and describe solutions for the water billing system described in the recent report jointly published by the Baltimore City.

And be it further resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the Acting Director of the Department of Public Works, the Director of the Department of Finance, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.