



# City of Baltimore

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

## 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: The Council President  
At the request of: The Administration (Ethics Board; Office of the Inspector General)

### A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning  
**Public Ethics Law - Prohibited Gifts - Closing Gaps**  
FOR the purpose of clarifying expressly that certain prohibitions encompass gifts from persons that a public servant knows or has reason to know seek to engage in an activity that is regulated by the public servant's agency or from persons that have recently been lobbyists with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of the public servant; correcting, clarifying, and conforming related provisions; providing for a special effective date; and generally relating to ethics in the public sector.

BY repealing and reordaining, with amendments  
Article 8 - Ethics  
Section(s) 6-26(a) and 6-27  
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 8. Ethics

Subtitle 6. Conflicts of Interest

◆ 6-26. Solicitation prohibited.

(a) In general.

Except as permitted under subsection (b) of this section, a public servant may not solicit or facilitate the solicitation of a gift, whether on the public servant's own behalf or on behalf of another person, from any person that the public servant knows or has reason to know:

(1) does or seeks to do business of any kind, regardless of amount:

(i) with the public servant's agency; or

(ii) with another person in connection with or in furtherance of a contract that is being negotiated or has been entered into by the other person with the public servant's agency;

(2) engages OR SEEKS TO ENGAGE in an activity that is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency;

(3) is OR, WITHIN THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS, HAS BEEN a lobbyist with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of the public servant;

(4) has a financial interest that might be substantially and materially affected, in a manner distinguishable from the public generally, by the performance or nonperformance of the public servant's official duties; or

(5) is an owner, partner, officer, director, trustee, employee, or agent of any person described in items (1) through (4) of this subsection.

◆ 6-27. Acceptance prohibited.

Except as otherwise provided in this Part IV, a public servant may not knowingly accept any gift, directly or indirectly, from any person that the public servant knows or has reason to know:

(1) does or seeks to do business of any kind, regardless of amount:

(i) with the public servant's agency; or

(ii) with another person in connection with or in furtherance of a contract that is being negotiated or has been entered into by the other person with the public servant's agency;

(2) engages OR SEEKS TO ENGAGE in an activity that is regulated or controlled by the public servant's agency;

(3) is OR, WITHIN THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS, HAS BEEN a lobbyist with respect to matters within the jurisdiction of the public servant;

(4) has a financial interest that might be substantially and materially affected, in a manner

distinguishable from the public generally, by the performance or nonperformance of the public servant's official duties; or

(5) is an owner, partner, officer, director, trustee, employee, or agent of any person described in items (1) through (4) of this subsection.

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 date that it is enacted.

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art8/Gifts-Clarifications/aa:me

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