

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, President

# BALTIMORE



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## City Council President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake Will Call for Changes in City Prescription Drug Coverage

**Baltimore, MD** (March 16, 2007) – Baltimore City Council President Stephanie Rawlings-Blake will introduce a bill to the City Council on Monday that will change the way the City offers prescription drug coverage to its employees. Currently, new City employees are eligible to receive medical coverage beginning the first day of the month following thirty days of service. Prescription drug coverage, however, does not take affect until the employee works a total of six months for the City of Baltimore.

"A gap of nearly half a year exists where the City offers medical insurance but not sufficient drug coverage to its own employees," said President Rawlings-Blake regarding her proposal. "A clean and safe Baltimore must start with a healthy Baltimore. Prescription drug coverage is vital for all Baltimoreans, but a good place to start is with the City's own workforce."

President Rawlings-Blake's proposal will bring prescription drug coverage for all new City employees in line with the medical coverage timeline. Baltimore City employs approximately 16,000 workers, many of whom are new employees following the recent change in leadership. President Rawlings-Blake's proposal is a direct response to employees who called for a more consistent, sensible system of coverage.

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