

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 13-0130R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Young, Councilmembers Henry, Curran, Stokes, Mosby, Holton,
Spector, Middleton, Clarke, Welch, Cole, Kraft, Scott

Introduced and read first time: October 21, 2013

Assigned to: Education and Youth Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore City Public School System

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Promoting Educational Success through a Continued Partnership and Oversight**

3 FOR the purpose of acknowledging the historical revitalization poised to occur within the
4 Baltimore City Public Schools system; marking the establishment of the Memorandum of
5 Understanding (MOU); encouraging the creation of an enhanced learning environment for
6 Baltimore City youth; calling for overall enhanced coordination between schools and
7 communities in the utilization of Baltimore City Public Schools properties; and calling upon
8 the InterAgency Committee on School Construction to make annual reports to the Baltimore
9 City Council detailing progress in the Baltimore City Schools 10-Year Plan.

10 **Recitals**

11 For many years parents and students have raised concerns about the state of Baltimore City
12 schools: heating and cooling systems did not work properly, leaving students cold in the winter
13 and hot in the summer; roofs leaked leaving classrooms uninhabitable; school campuses
14 sometimes resembled correctional facilities rather than beacons of hope and intellectual
15 stimulation.

16 After a dynamic advocacy effort supported by the Baltimore City state delegation, the
17 Baltimore City Council, the Mayor, and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), parents
18 and children were given hope for a renaissance of Baltimore City schools. House Bill 860, *The*
19 *Baltimore City Public Schools Construction and Revitalization Act of 2013* (the “Act”), was
20 adopted by the state legislature and signed into law on May 16, 2013.

21 While setting the stage for a momentous revitalization of Baltimore City Schools, the Act
22 authorizes the Maryland Stadium Authority to finance the renovation and replacement of school
23 buildings through the issuance of revenue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000,000 and
24 to carry out those renovation and replacement projects in accordance with Baltimore City Public
25 Schools’10-Year Plan approved by the School Board on January 8, 2013 (the “10-Year Plan”).
26 Under the plan, all Baltimore City Public Schools students will learn in buildings that embody
27 21st-century standards of excellence within 10 years.

28 To facilitate that goal, the Act required the Maryland Stadium Authority, the City of
29 Baltimore, the Baltimore City School Commissioners, and the InterAgency Committee on School
30 Construction to enter into an MOU for the purpose of the establishing the method through which

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter deleted by amendment.

Council Bill 13-0130R

1 construction, revitalization, relocation, and closure of certain Baltimore City public school
2 buildings would occur.

3 This MOU was adopted by the Board of School Commissioners on September 24, 2013, the
4 Board of Estimates on September 25, 2013, the Maryland Stadium Authority on October 1, 2013,
5 and was finalized with its adoption by the Maryland Board of Public Works on October 16, 2013.

6 The Baltimore City Council acknowledges the tremendous opportunity afforded to Baltimore
7 City Public Schools through this unique financing arrangement and seeks to ensure careful,
8 efficient use of these resources. To that end, the City Council calls upon the Maryland Stadium
9 Authority and the InterAgency Committee on School Construction to make annual reports to the
10 Baltimore City Council detailing their progress in completing the Baltimore City Schools 10
11 Year Plan starting on or about May 1, 2014.

12 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
13 Council acknowledges the historical revitalization poised to occur within the Baltimore City
14 Public Schools system; marks the establishment of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU);
15 encourages the creation of an enhanced learning environment for Baltimore City youth; calls for
16 overall enhanced coordination between schools and communities in the utilization of Baltimore
17 City Public Schools properties; and calls upon the InterAgency Committee on School
18 Construction to make annual reports to the Baltimore City Council detailing progress in the
19 Baltimore City Schools 10-Year Plan.

20 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
21 Interim CEO of Baltimore City Public Schools, the Executive Director of the InterAgency
22 Committee on School Construction, the Executive Director of the Maryland Stadium Authority,
23 and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.