

**CITY OF BALTIMORE  
COUNCIL BILL 06-0223R  
(Resolution)**

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Introduced by: Councilmembers Harris, Young

Introduced and read first time: October 16, 2006

Assigned to: Education, Housing, Health, and Human Services Committee

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REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore City Public School System, Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, Department of Finance, Bureau of Purchases

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A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Request for State Legislation – Baltimore City Public School System – Procurement**

3 FOR the purpose of respectfully requesting the Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore  
4 City Senate and House Delegations to the 2007 session of the Maryland General Assembly to  
5 sponsor legislation to place the procurement activities of the Baltimore City Public School  
6 System under the authority of the Bureau of Purchases of the Baltimore City Department of  
7 Finance to assure that, as part of a centralized purchasing system, maximum benefits are  
8 obtained at most cost-effective expenditure by the public school system.

9 **Recitals**

10 The stated goal of the Bureau of Purchases of the Department of Finance is to obtain the right  
11 materials, in the right quantity, for the delivery at the right time and the right place, from the  
12 right source, with the right service, at the right price. The Bureau of Purchases objectives are  
13 listed as:

- 14 • Provide an uninterrupted flow of materials, supplies, and services required to operate the
- 15 City.
- 16 • Identify cost effective inventory reduction methods.
- 17 • Maintain adequate quality standards.
- 18 • Encourage competition with current e-commerce technologies.
- 19 • Standardize, where possible, items bought.
- 20 • Purchase required items and services at lowest ultimate price.
- 21 • Maintain the City's ability to deliver services. The City will only be able to deliver
- 22 required services if it can control costs.
- 23 • Achieve harmonious, productive working relations with other departments in the City.
- 24 • The Bureau of Purchases must accomplish the purchasing objectives a the lowest level of
- 25 administrative costs.

26 The Procurement Division conducts the foremost responsibilities of the Bureau of Purchases  
27 and through the procurement staff of engineers, buyers, purchasing assistants, and other support  
28 personnel, ensures that the various agencies and quasi agencies of City government “acquire the  
29 required materials, goods, equipment, and services at the right time, of good quality, in the  
30 desired quantity, at fair reasonable prices, and when applicable, on a continuing basis”.

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

**Council Bill 06-0223R**

1 The 1997 state legislation establishing the City-State public school partnership specifically  
2 removed the Baltimore City Public School System from oversight or management by the City's  
3 Bureau of Purchases and placed it with the Board of School Commissioners: "Notwithstanding  
4 any provision of local law, the Board shall adopt rules and regulations governing the  
5 procurement of goods and services by the Baltimore City Public School System" at the same  
6 time requiring the Board to "adopt the Minority Business Enterprise and Women Business  
7 Enterprise goals of Baltimore City relating to procurement".

8 Returning the procurement process of the Baltimore City Public School System to the  
9 supervision and direction the Bureau of Purchases will secure economy of scale for certain  
10 purchases, provide ongoing oversight of the entire procurement process, insure review and  
11 approval of emergency contracts by the fiscal expertise of the Board of Estimates, and will  
12 ultimately result in a more cost effective use of the System's limited fiscal resources.

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the  
14 Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City Senate and House Delegations to the 2007  
15 session of the Maryland General Assembly are respectfully requested to sponsor legislation to  
16 place the procurement activities of the Baltimore City Public School System under the authority  
17 of the Bureau of Purchases of the Baltimore City Department of Finance to assure that, as part of  
18 a centralized purchasing system, maximum benefits are obtained at most cost-effective  
19 expenditure by the public school system.

20 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That this Resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Chairs  
21 and Members of the Senate and House Delegations to the Maryland General Assembly following  
22 the convening of the 2007 Session on January 10, 2007.

23 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the  
24 Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City Senate and House Delegations to the 2007  
25 Session of the Maryland General Assembly, the CEO and CFO of the Baltimore City Public  
26 School System, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, the Director of Finance, the  
27 Executive Director of the Office of State Relations, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the  
28 City Council.