

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 06-0237R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Conaway, Kraft, Young, Harris, Mitchell, Reisinger, Clarke,
Welch, D'Adamo

Introduced and read first time: December 4, 2006

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

Committee Report: Favorable

Adopted: April 23, 2007

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Pilot Program – Schools Buildings Open on Weekends and During the Summer

FOR the purpose of requesting that the City of Baltimore develop a pilot program to keep certain schools in Baltimore City open on weekends and during the summer, in order to provide young people who otherwise would be on the streets and potentially breaking curfew, with a safe place to have activities on the weekends and during the summer months.

Recitals

According to the nighttime curfew laws, no minor may remain in a public place or any establishment between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. on weekdays and 12 a.m. and 6 a.m. on weekends. In Article 19 § 34-3 of the Baltimore City Code there is an exception that reads as follows:

attending or, without any detour or stop, going to or returning from an official school, religious, or other recreational activity supervised by adults and sponsored by the City of Baltimore, a civic organization, or another similar entity that takes responsibility for the minor.

This exception provides an opportunity of which we should take full advantage. The fact is that many children do not have enough activities during the summer months and on weekends to occupy their time, and they find themselves spending time on public streets after curfew hours. Many times parents work at night and are unable to supervise their children at all times.

Fortunately, we have many school buildings throughout our City that can be used to help solve this problem. If these schools were to stay open at times on weekends and during the summer, then these children would have a supervised place to go and spend their summer and weekend days and evenings. This program would not only help children remain safe and off City streets, but would also provide more summer work hours for those older students and school employees who wish to earn extra money over the summer months and on weekends.

The most important issue is that our children remain safe over the course of the summer months and on weekends when they need more stimulation due to the fact that they do not have wake up early for school the next day. If we can provide extended building access hours, then we would not only know where our children were spending their time, but also who they were

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

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1 with and what they were doing. With young children spending time on the streets and with
2 curfew laws consistently being violated, it is more important than ever that we take action and
3 make certain that the youth in our communities have proper resources available to provide
4 educational and entertaining activities during the summer and on weekends, and that we further
5 the decrease of curfew violations that currently burden our police department.

6 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this
7 Body requests that the City of Baltimore develop a pilot program to keep certain schools in
8 Baltimore City open on weekends and during the summer in order to provide young people who
9 otherwise would be on the streets and potentially breaking curfew, with a safe place to have
10 activities on the weekends and during the summer months.

11 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
12 Department of Recreation and Parks, the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners, the
13 Baltimore City Police Department, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the Council.