

# BALTIMORE CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Stephanie Rawlings-Blake  
Mayor, City of Baltimore

Neil E. Duke, Esq.  
Chair, Baltimore City Board of  
School Commissioners

Andrés A. Alonso, Ed.D.  
Chief Executive Officer

March 19, 2012

The Honorable Bernard C. "Jack" Young  
President, Baltimore City Council  
City Hall, Room 400  
100 N. Holliday Street  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: Position Statement  
City Council Bill (Resolution) 12-0030R

Dear Council President Young:

On February 29, 2012 the Baltimore City Council introduced the above-captioned resolution, regarding the use of VLT Land Lease Revenue for School Construction and Renovation. The resolution requests that the Mayor dedicate all of the annual revenue from the proposed Video Lottery Terminal (VLT) facility land lease to the Public School Construction and Renovation Special Fund.

Baltimore City Public Schools' (City Schools) facilities are in a state of woeful disrepair. The current backlog for school construction and renovation has been estimated at anywhere from \$1 billion to as much as \$2.8 billion in order to create a more suitable, healthier and more supportive learning environment for our children. High quality school facilities have a measurable, positive impact on student learning, attendance and graduation.

Any dedicated, consistent and predictable revenue sources provided by Baltimore City can be leveraged to produce significant funds targeted at City Schools' facility issues. City Schools therefore welcomes the identification of any resources dedicated to school construction and/or renovation; we trust that Baltimore City has identified those resources that best fit within its financial framework.

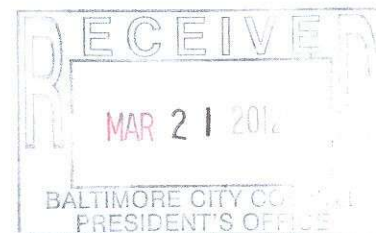
City Schools will support this effort, and we will gladly testify to that extent. Thank you for inviting us to participate in this process.

Sincerely,



Andrés A. Alonso, Ed.D.  
Chief Executive Officer

C: Dawana Sterrette, Legislative Liaison  
Michael Frist, Chief Executive Officer  
J. Keith Scroggins, Chief Operating Officer



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GREAT SCHOOLS