

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 10-0240R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, Henry, Curran, Kraft, Stokes, Cole, Holton, D'Adamo,
President Young, Councilmembers Middleton, Branch, Conaway, Reisinger
Introduced and adopted: December 9, 2010

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

December 21, 2010 – Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

1
2 FOR the purpose of declaring December 21 to be Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, in memory
3 of those people who have died in our shelters, on our streets and in other places unfit for
4 human dwelling, from ailments or conditions directly related to homelessness, and without a
5 secure place to say.

6 **WHEREAS**, over the course of a year, at least 35,000 people in Baltimore City – a small
7 fraction of the estimated 3.5 million across the country – find themselves without a secure place
8 to stay; and

9 **WHEREAS**, adequate housing, which is essential for maintaining healthy individuals, families
10 and communities, has become increasingly inaccessible due to rising costs of living and
11 inadequate incomes; and

12 **WHEREAS**, too many of our friends' and neighbors' final residence is the street; and

13 **WHEREAS**, every member of society, including people experiencing homelessness, should
14 have a right to the dignity of safe, decent, accessible, and affordable housing; and

15 **WHEREAS**, neither individual freedom nor flourishing community can exist without
16 economic security; and

17 **WHEREAS**, all across the nation, communities will join Baltimore City in coming together on
18 or near the first day of winter and the longest night of the year to remember those who have died
19 without a secure place to live and to recommit to the urgent task of ending the conditions that
20 create homelessness.

21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that we hereby
22 declare December 21 to be Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, in memory of those people who
23 have died in our shelters, on our streets and in other places unfit for human dwelling, from
24 ailments or conditions directly related to homelessness, and without a secure place to say. We
25 recognize that their lives mattered and had meaning. We recommit to providing the services,
26 education, and advocacy necessary to making homelessness an increasingly rare and brief
27 experience and to the pursuit of a future in Baltimore City in which health care is available,
28 housing is accessible, and incomes are livable for all.

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

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1 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
2 President & CEO of Health Care for the Homeless, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the
3 City Council.