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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

September 14, 2011

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) 11-0312R

Dear Council President Young:

On August 15, 2011, the Baltimore City Council introduced the above-captioned resolution regarding the possible automation of the Youth Works registration process. According to the resolution, some potential participants of the Youth Works program are prevented from participating because they do not have the necessary documentation during the registration process; the City Council envisions remedying this problem by linking to already existing databases belonging to Baltimore City Public Schools (City Schools).

The resolution did not make clear exactly which databases and what specific information would be requested of City Schools. However, based on our understanding of the Youth Works program and the registration forms that we have seen, in order to complete the employment process a youth would need to submit an I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification form, for the City of Baltimore. The student would also need to present his or her Social Security card and birth certificate, as well as picture identification for examination and a copy to be retained on file. City Schools does not capture copies of these documents in any of its databases. Even if we did, written consent from each parent or legal guardian would be required before City Schools could share the information with the Youth Works program.

City Schools will be glad to testify regarding this matter in order to clarify our concerns with the resolution. Thank you for inviting City Schools to participate in this process.

Sincerely,

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

C: Dawana Sterrette, Legislative Liaison

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Linda Eberhart, Executive Director - Teaching and Learning

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