

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 21-0065R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Burnett, Dorsey, Ramos, Porter, Bullock, Torrence, Cohen
Introduced and read first time: October 4, 2021
Assigned to: Economic and Community Development Committee
Committee Report: Favorable
Adopted: ♦

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

**Investigative Hearing - Vacant Residential Properties -
Requirement for Homeowners Insurance**

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3 FOR the purpose of inviting the Director of the Department of Housing and Community
4 Development, the City Administrator, the City Solicitor, the Maryland Insurance
5 Commissioner, the Baltimore City Comptroller, and the President and CEO of the Baltimore
6 Development Corporation to testify regarding requiring owners of vacant residential
7 properties to obtain homeowners insurance.

Recitals

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9 **WHEREAS**, privately-owned, vacant residential properties that have been left in a state of
10 disrepair or have not been properly maintained are a continuing problem in Baltimore City;

11 **WHEREAS**, many of these properties are located in populated communities and are adjacent
12 to other commercial and residential properties;

13 **WHEREAS**, long-term disrepair or neglect of a vacant residential property may cause physical
14 injury to those in the community or damage to adjacent properties; and

15 **WHEREAS**, the citizens and property owners of Baltimore City should have recourse if a
16 person's neglect of a vacant property leads to physical injury or property damage, and filing a
17 claim against a property owner's homeowners insurance could provide such recourse.

18 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, That the City
19 Council invites the Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the
20 City Administrator, the City Solicitor, the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, the Baltimore City
21 Comptroller, and the President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation to testify
22 regarding requiring owners of vacant residential properties to obtain homeowners insurance.

EXPLANATION: Underlining indicates matter added by amendment.
~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken 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 Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development, the City Administrator,
3 the City Solicitor, the Maryland Insurance Commissioner, the Baltimore City Comptroller, the
4 President and CEO of the Baltimore Development Corporation, and the Mayor's Legislative
5 Liaison to the City Council.