

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 17-0059R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Scott, President Young, Councilmembers Bullock, Henry,
Costello, Pinkett, Dorsey, Burnett, Clarke, Sneed, Stokes, Schleifer, Cohen

Introduced and read first time: December 7, 2017

Assigned to: Public Safety Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Police Department, Department of Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Investigative Hearing - Baltimore City Police Staffing, Recruitment, and Retention**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore City Police Commissioner appear before the
4 City Council to brief it regarding recruitment efforts, officer retention, and recouping training
5 dollars, report on the number and percentage of individuals that enroll in the police academy,
6 graduate from the police academy, and are employed by the Baltimore Police Department
7 after graduation, and discuss the retention rate of those employed by the Baltimore Police
8 Department, the deployment of officers, and how that deployment will enable the City to
9 curtail the rise in violent crime.

10 **Recitals**

11 Baltimore City ended 2016 with 318 homicides. Through November 2017, Baltimore City
12 has already experienced 319 homicides and 649 non-fatal shootings. By any measure, Baltimore
13 City has a violent crime problem.

14 It has been reported by the Baltimore Police Commissioner that the Baltimore Police
15 Department is short 500 officers. This shortage is cited as a significant factor in rising overtime
16 costs to fund basic patrol functions of the Police Department.

17 Moreover, the Police Department has stated that recruitment efforts have been improving as
18 there are more individuals in the academy process now than at any point since 2004. Despite
19 those efforts, and improvements in the area of attrition, there still seems to be a need for
20 improvement in the area of hiring and recruitment.

21 Baltimore City needs a strategy to address violent crime and respond to the need for
22 community police, while recruiting, training, and hiring employees and controlling spending.

23 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
24 Council requests that the Baltimore City Police Commissioner appear before it to brief the
25 Council regarding recruitment efforts, officer retention, and recouping training dollars, report on
26 the number and percentage of individuals that enroll in the police academy, graduate from the
27 police academy, and are employed by the Baltimore Police Department after graduation, and
28 discuss the retention rate of those employed by the Baltimore Police Department, the deployment
29 of officers, and how that deployment will enable the City to curtail the rise in violent crime.

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 Police Commissioner, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.