

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 09-0156R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Clarke, Henry, Curran, Kraft, D'Adamo, Middleton, Holton,
Welch, Branch, Spector, Conaway
Introduced and adopted: October 5, 2009

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

**In Support of the Johns Hopkins University Class of 2010
and its Commencement Invitation to President & Mrs. Barack Obama**

FOR the purpose of expressing support for the Johns Hopkins University Class of 2010's invitation for President Obama to deliver the keynote address at their commencement ceremony on May 27, 2010.

WHEREAS, President-Elect Barack Obama and his family honored Baltimore City and the thousands of us in attendance by choosing Baltimore as the final stop on the Obama Family's historic whistle-stop journey to Inauguration 2009; and,

WHEREAS, In that same homecoming spirit, the senior class of Baltimore's Johns Hopkins University has invited President Barack Obama to deliver the keynote address on the occasion of its own "whistle stop" in its likewise significant journey to baccalaureate degrees as proud graduates of the Johns Hopkins Schools of Arts and Sciences and Engineering; and,

WHEREAS, As undergraduates, the Class of 2010 has distinguished itself by fulfilling a record number of volunteer contributions to the citizens of Baltimore City, especially the children, by tutoring and mentoring in our public schools and branch libraries, by walking with neighborhood Citizens On Patrol, by painting and repairing non-profit youth centers in our most challenged corners of the City, and by planting trees (by the acre), sweeping alleys (by the mile), and clearing vacant lots (by the "lots"!); and,

WHEREAS, From our Baltimore City Council vantage point, Hopkins' Class of 2010 has demonstrated a sustained and "sweat equity" commitment to public service which is so ingrained and outpouring as to infuse the future careers they pursue, influencing the very nature of those careers and professions, as President Obama has already influenced our own and countless others; and,

WHEREAS, The Class of 2010 includes the 2nd class of Hopkins' history-making Baltimore Scholars, a program begun in 2005 which awards full 4-year tuition to high school graduates of the Baltimore City Public Schools who are accepted on their merits as Johns Hopkins University undergraduates, a program changing the odds and encouraging the aspirations of our City's student population; and,

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

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1 **WHEREAS**, Johns Hopkins University has just inaugurated a young new president, Ronald
2 Daniels, of a generation and mindset to raise-up the great expectations of inclusion, change and
3 public service for which the Class of 2010 and the Obama Presidency have laid the groundwork.

4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that, on a
5 practical note in support of this heartfelt invitation, unlike in the shivering cold of his January
6 whistle-stop, the City Council of Baltimore does hereby assure President Obama that our City
7 will provide balmy weather in his honor on graduation day May 27, 2010, and Baltimore City's
8 consistently warm welcome, whatever the national "climate" of that day or any other.

9 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to Maryland
10 Governor Martin O'Malley, U.S. Senators Barbara A. Mikulski and Benjamin Cardin,
11 Representatives Elijah Cummings and John Cardin, Hopkins President Ronald Daniels, and
12 Class of 2010 President Affan Sheikh, with our thanks for their advocacy on Hopkins' behalf;
13 and, to President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama for their kind consideration of
14 Hopkins' Class of 2010's invitation.