

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 16-0310R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Scott, President Young, Councilmembers Middleton, Costello,
Curran, Kraft, Stokes, Henry, Clarke, Welch, Holton
Introduced and adopted: July 18, 2016

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Request for State Action – Police Redistricting

1
2 FOR the purpose of calling on the Baltimore City Delegation to the 2017 Maryland General
3 Assembly to secure enactment of legislation requiring that the Baltimore City Police
4 Department review and adjust police district boundaries after the information from each
5 decennial census becomes available to ensure that Baltimore’s security resources are
6 allocated as efficiently as possible.

Recitals

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8 Baltimore City’s Police Department divides the 86 square miles under its jurisdiction into 9
9 police districts of varying size for administrative purposes. Typically, each of the 9 districts is
10 staffed with roughly the same number of officers.

11 District boundaries have remained unchanged for years despite significant changes in both
12 population numbers and distribution since the present boundaries were adopted, as well as
13 changes in the security needs of various neighborhoods over this timespan. Today, the districts
14 vary significantly in area, population, and number of calls for services. A study of 2012 call for
15 service data, for instance, found that the least active district had only 60% as many calls for
16 service as the most active district.

17 Without periodic review and revision of the district boundaries it is likely that changing
18 circumstances will lead to increasingly inefficient allocations of police resources. In order to
19 avoid this, it is important to mandate that changes be considered at regular intervals.

20 By law, City Council districts need to be reexamined and realigned every 10 years when new
21 census results become available. Police districts should be adjusted at this time as well, so that
22 they can take advantage of the most up to date information available on population and service
23 call volume changes.

24 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
25 Council calls on the Baltimore City Delegation to the 2017 Maryland General Assembly to
26 secure enactment of legislation requiring that the Baltimore City Police Department review and
27 adjust police district boundaries after the information from each decennial census becomes
28 available to ensure that Baltimore’s security resources are allocated as efficiently as possible.

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 Governor, the
2 Honorable Chairs and Members of the Baltimore City House and Senate Delegations to the
3 Maryland General Assembly, the President of the Maryland Senate, the Maryland House
4 Speaker, the Mayor, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the City Council.