

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 08-0087R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmembers Holton, D’Adamo, Henry, Young, Branch, Spector, Clarke,
Reisinger

Introduced and read first time: October 27, 2008

Assigned to: Taxation, Finance and Economic Development Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Employees’ Retirement System, Department of
Finance

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Informational Hearing – Retirement Benefit Enhancement – Followup**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting the Executive Director of the Employees’ Retirement System to
4 report to the City Council on the status of providing optional enhanced benefit improvements
5 to Baltimore City members and their beneficiaries.

6 **Recitals**

7 Council Bill 07-0317R - Informational Hearing – Retirement Benefit Enhancement, in
8 calling for an informational hearing on the feasibility of providing optional benefit
9 improvements to better reflect the City’s appreciation of its dedicated workforce, stated that
10 there are approximately 9,000 working, 8,600 retired, and 1,000 vested, but not as yet claiming
11 benefits, members of the Employees’ Retirement System who have provided valuable civil
12 service to the citizens of Baltimore.

13 Some of these employees, “particularly members represented by AFSCME and CUB, do
14 physically demanding work and often experience chronic health issues after 20 years. Unlike
15 members of the police and fire unions, they are not eligible to take a 50% pension retirement at
16 this point but must continue to work for a full 30 years until they are eligible for a mere 48%
17 pension retirement benefit.”

18 The purpose of the hearing was to request officials of the Employees’ Retirement System
19 (ERS) to explore the possibility of providing an enhanced benefit package that would not only
20 reward and validate their many years of dedicated service but would provide the health coverage
21 needed to insure that they can enjoy an active retirement.

22 This hearing will provide an opportunity for an update on the work of the Trustees and the
23 Executive Director of the Employees’ Retirement Systems who report that ERS officials have
24 been working to explore cost neutral options to provide benefits enhancements that would
25 provide 100%, or close to 100% replacement income for City employees at normal retirement
26 when coupled with social security benefits.

27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That the
28 Executive Director of the Employees’ Retirement System is requested to report to the City

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

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1 Council on the status of providing optional enhanced benefit improvements to Baltimore City
2 members and their beneficiaries.

3 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
4 Executive Director of the Employees' Retirement Systems, and the Mayor's Legislative Liaison
5 to the City Council.