

CITY OF BALTIMORE

SHEILA DIXON, Mayor



DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS

WANDA S. DURDEN, Acting Director
DR. RALPH W.E. JONES, JR. BUILDING
3001 East Drive - Druid Hill Park
Baltimore, Maryland 21217
410-396-6132

December 21, 2008

Honorable President Stephanie Rawlings Blake
Members of the City Council
Baltimore City Council
100 N. Holliday Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: **Council Bill # 08-0227**
Registered Sex Offenders – Residence Near Schools, etc., Prohibited

Dear President Rawlings Blake:

The Department of Recreation and Parks **supports** Council Bill #08-0227. The bill is for the purpose of prohibiting a registered sex offender from residing within a certain distance of a school, child care facility, or certain recreation or service facilities; defining certain terms; imposing certain penalties; excepting certain situations; and generally relating to prohibiting a registered sex offender from residing near locations where children congregate.

As an agency, we strive to provide secure environments for the youth in our care. It is not only paramount that youth be safe within the boundaries of our facilities; but equally important that they be protected and secure as they travel to and from our facilities. We agree with and support the intent of this legislation that seeks to protect some of our most vulnerable citizens from sexual predators.

The proposed Bill will positively impact the general area and create a “safe-zone” around our facilities.

Therefore, the Department of Recreation and Parks **supports** Council Bill #08-0227.

Respectfully,


Wanda S. Durden, Director

WSD/VSO

cc: Angela Gibson, Legislative Liaison to the City Council

