

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 13-0123R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: President Young, Councilmembers Henry, Middleton, Stokes, Kraft, Scott,
Clarke, Holton, Cole, Curran, Welch, Branch
Introduced and adopted: September 16, 2013

A COUNCIL RESOLUTION CONCERNING

Drive 4 Pledges Day – September 19th, 2013

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2 FOR the purpose of recognizing September 19th, 2013 as “Drive 4 Pledges Day” and urging all
3 Baltimoreans to take the pledge never to text and drive.

Recitals

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5 **WHEREAS**, The City of Baltimore holds the health and safety of its teenagers and adults as a
6 chief concern.

7 **WHEREAS**, Through ItCanWait.com, Facebook, text-to-pledge, tweet-to-pledge and events,
8 more than 2 million people have committed to never text and drive.

9 **WHEREAS**, 98 percent of American commuters know sending a text or email while driving is
10 not safe.

11 **WHEREAS**, Nearly 50 percent of commuters text while behind the wheel.

12 **WHEREAS**, More than 40 percent of commuters who text while driving reported the activity
13 as being a habit.

14 **WHEREAS**, Texting while driving is illegal in the State of Maryland.

15 **WHEREAS**, According to the Automobile Association of America, estimates suggest that
16 distraction contributes to 16% of all fatal crashes, leading to around 5,000 deaths every year.

17 **WHEREAS**, a driver that sends a text message while driving not only jeopardizes his or her
18 safety, but also the safety of passengers, pedestrians, and other drivers.

19 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE**, that the
20 Council recognizes September 19th, 2013 as “Drive 4 Pledges Day” and urges all Baltimoreans to
21 take the pledge never to text and drive.

22 **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Mayor, the
23 Interim CEO of Baltimore City Public Schools, and the Mayor’s Legislative Liaison to the City
24 Council.

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