

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
COUNCIL BILL 06-0186R
(Resolution)**

Introduced by: Councilmember Welch, President Dixon, Councilmembers D’Adamo, Curran,
Young, Kraft, Conaway, Clarke, Reisinger, Rawlings Blake

Introduced and read first time: June 5, 2006

Assigned to: Education, Housing, Health, and Human Services Committee

REFERRED TO THE FOLLOWING AGENCIES: Baltimore City Public School System

A RESOLUTION ENTITLED

1 A COUNCIL RESOLUTION concerning

2 **Safety On School Buses – What is Being Done?**

3 FOR the purpose of requesting that the Baltimore City Public School System Department of
4 Transportation brief the Council regarding safety issues on Baltimore City Public School
5 buses and what is done contractually to ensure that our children are as safe as they can be
6 while riding on the bus to and from school.

7 **Recitals**

8 According to reports, a young Baltimore City Public School student was left on a Baltimore
9 City Public School bus after all of the other students were dropped off and was not found until
10 after midnight. This is not the first instance of this happening in Baltimore City. The questions
11 regarding our children’s safety, while riding the Baltimore City Public School buses, need to be
12 addressed. Are our children safe while on their way to and from school?

13 There is never a reason why a student should be “forgotten” on a school bus. There must be
14 some measures put in to effect that will protect our children from being left behind after school
15 hours or not making it home on time. If the current safety procedures are not being followed,
16 then it may be time for new procedures to be put into effect. In addition, the City school bus
17 contract should, if it does not already, require that there to be an aide or safety officer on the bus
18 with the driver and the children at all times. It should be the responsibility of this aide to make
19 sure that all children arrive at their destinations safely and that no students are left on the bus at
20 the end of the ride home.

21 When the contract for the school buses is put together, the agency responsible needs to make
22 sure that certain safety precautions are taken and written into the contract before it is signed.
23 This will not only ensure the safety of the students who ride the bus, but will offer more
24 accountability when something goes wrong.

25 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE,** That this
26 Body requests that the Baltimore City Public School System Department of Transportation brief
27 the Council regarding safety issues on Baltimore City Public School buses and what is done
28 contractually to ensure that our children are as safe as they can be while riding on the bus to and
29 from school.

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 Mayor, the
2 Baltimore City Public School System Department of Transportation, the Baltimore City Parent
3 Teacher Associations, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, First Student Inc., and the
4 Mayor's Legislative Liaison to the Council.